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MACLEAN'S

CANADA'S
MAGAZINE
OF THE
YEAR

EXCLUSIVE

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Clarkson:
PUBLIC
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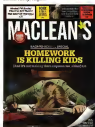
SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT

I AM WRITING about your back-to-school special ("Homework is killing kids," Cover, Sept. 11). I would like to speak to the issue of overloading children with homework. I am an educator who has had students who do not, despite the ample time given to them, complete homework in the classroom. When leaving is the norm, leaving students after school, or having them come to class early, as an option. I don't incorporate it during class either because physical activity is so important. Oftentimes, my only recourse is to send work home to be completed. This is not "busy work," as your interview subject, author Alice Kahn, says, but rather a consequence of students not completing work at school. Also, the teachers I know don't send piles of work home just for the sake of it. That work needs to be studied, and believe me, I spend enough time marking and evaluating work done in the classroom with. After all, "busy work" makes teachers busy too. Leigh Blakely, Niagara Falls, Ont.

FRONTIER COLLEGE has been opposing after-school reading circles and homework clubs across Canada for disadvantaged children since 1984. Our volunteers, mostly university students, meet with the children at a variety of sites including community centers, churches and inner city schools, and spend two to three hours with them reading and writing, playing chess, and discovering that it's cool to be smart. Our results show that these programs lead to significant improvement in academic and social skills for the children. As Kahn suggests, perhaps the key to success is in what we mean by "homework." A child can learn a lot about geography through discussion about the World Cup, for example. Rather than condemning all homework at the time, let's work at meaningful teaching activities. John D. O'Leary, President, Frontier College, Toronto

I HAVE LONG SUSPECTED that forcing young children to do homework is useless. I just finished my first—and last—year of a bachelor of education program. Few people in my university classes or at the public schools shared my view of homework. During my nine-month experience, I witnessed a leading-grade teacher chastising a five-year-old for not com-

pleting her homework assignment. Schools train students to postpone the status quo, not to question it. Until we have more teachers who are questioners themselves, this state of affairs will not change. It is my fervent wish that before my children reach elementary school, educators will become more aware of the empirical data regarding the efficacy of homework in increasing learning. Kenda Kevly, Regina



MAKING THE GRADE

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER to Maclean's justifies their inclination: "distilled from your 2006 survey on the basis of representative aggregation of data from a wide range of variables and averaging of rankings, the drawing of comparisons across incompatible surveys, and other issues." (Information, please.) From the editors, Sept. 11: "In short," they say, "the testing methodology used by Maclean's is oversimplified and arbitrary." I find this richly ironic, considering that our grading of students involves procedures that take into account not a variety of behaviours (from choice of course to attendance to essay writing), not a variety of statistical (Religious Studies, Physics, etc.), notional (A, B, C) and numerical (100-0) scales, converting it back and forth in varied and arbitrary ways ("It's a B+ paper, I'll give a 75 per cent"), and then ignoring out a flawed global statistic—the grade point average. Were we to see that "methodology" in our research, we would be laughed out of the academy. It is no coincidence that academic teams to read such

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SHARP

'I've always been interested in politics. The more things have gone astray, it's more necessary to get involved.'

SEAN PENN TALKS TO KENNETH WHYTE ABOUT 'ALL THE KING'S MEN,' POLITICAL ACTIVISM, AND WANTING TO JOIN THE U.S. MILITARY

Q And I right in that this is the first time you've played a politician?

A: I think so.

Q Don't the fact that you're playing a politician have something to do with the issue we're in, or where you're at in your life or career? Or what you are appealing to?

A: I think it would have been appealing to me at any time. Steven Zaillian, the director, and I had worked together 20-some years ago, whenever it was, on *The Talented Mr. Ripley* and the *Swimmer*, and we've kept in touch ever since then, and when he sent this thing, you know, it was just terrific.

Q Were you familiar with *All the King's Men* before you started the project?

A: I was familiar with the existence of the [Robert Penn Warren] novel—I hadn't read it—so after I read the script I read the novel. That's what I knew about it.

Q Willie Stark, the role you play, based loosely on Louisiana governor Huey Long, is a great and complex old character. Unfortunately, he's often discussed rather superficially as a bad man and a demagogue, but I was happy to see the movie give him the depth he deserves.

A: I had never heard him described as a thing. Well, I'd heard it, and I heard it more when I started looking into the inspiration for the role, the governor Long story, but there were his critics—principally the ones who considered him that way, and maybe the newspapers, which were controlled by

the wealthy at that time. But spending time in Louisiana, you talk to people and they remember the good he did. He was a man of the people, and he had this almost musical way in the way that he talked and connected with people. But then there was the issue of business power corrupting, and that's where it gets more complicated.

Q You've played a lot of tough, outsider, over-the-years. It must be different to portray a powerful politician—any special challenges?

A: Well, I find that that's how I describe everything I do—an challenge. Yeah, I mean the challenge here, for an actor, would be some of the speeches. At that time, they didn't have microphones. Where a real politician today might do a four-city or five-city tour in a day and do four or five presentations of his speech, it's always into a microphone. I was doing 30 presentations on a given day—you know, on different miles and new set-ups—without a microphone, so I would say that was a challenge. I didn't react on the stage in a long time. I hadn't exactly warmed up my pipes.

Q It's also a much more flamboyant oratorical style than what you are from most politicians today.

A: Yeah. Well, this stuff's ever so slightly based, you know—you can hear it in the language from the original story.

Q The reason I asked about whether the role had appeal to you at this point in your life is that you've been politically active of late. You're published in an open letter to George

Bush in the *Washington Post*. You've been outspoken on the war in Iraq. You visited Iraq and Iran, you were in New Orleans after hurricane Katrina. Apart from this role, it seems politics has now become more interesting to you.

A: I think I've always been interested in politics. I think the way things have gone wrong, it's more necessary for people to get engaged or involved now, but I have always been interested. I don't think anything has changed in me, but things have changed around me, as far as which way the wind blows, you know.

Q When you see things going on in the world that you want to comment on, why do it through activism or by writing letters? Are there things that you can't do through your art, through acting or directing?

A I think you gotta pick up the bottle that's on the table, you know?
Q But you write, direct and act—are't you pretty capable of expressing yourself through your art?

A: Yeah, but you still don't know on any given morning what you're going to pick up sometimes, in politics, in the real world here, things need an immediate reaction. For me, maybe it's lack of patience. You know, I really don't dare speak between the lines on the table. If I need a break, I pick up a drink. But, as you point, I do think it's possible to express myself through art. I think you would have to write your own material, it would



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THERE'S MORE TO SEE

The press darling who became 'the Jew'



Melanie Phillips sports no-nonsense short gray hair and restless eyebrows. They match a mental acuity that has no on-screen rival, only inside. Given such traits, it should have been difficult for the British intelligence to marginalize Phillips, who began her profession as a reporter on the *Guardian* and is now a columnist for the *Daily Mail*. But never underestimate police and Secretaries when in the hands of the experienced subjects of Her Majesty.

Bookshops already have Phillips's most recent work, *Loudspeaker*, on their shelves. *Canadians* ought to race to buy it. The book's easy read is out of all proportion to its importance and Phillips's struggle to get it published. For three years, every British publisher turned down the idea of a book about the much-loved Jewish minority toward the U.S., Israel and the Jews, on grounds that discussion of British anti-Semitism and a defence of Israel were literally "unacceptable." Finally, Phillips got a small non-profit American publisher: TheLoudspeaker is the trading name that radical Muslims now use for London, a play on the names of various state sponsors of terrorism.

In 1996, Phillips purchased the *Osseil Press* for her journalism. Appropriate: George Osseil would be only too familiar with the trajectory of Londonism, which makes the question his own *Animal Farm* went through in 1966. At that time, the British, who understood only too well that *Animal Farm* was a devastating satire of the Soviet Union, refused to publish it, an American publisher, doubtless, declaration grounds that their son "no market for animal stories."

Loudspeaker takes no prisoners. Phillips spotlight the poverty of the modern human rights movement, the help, less than hidden, both of the media and politicians in threat to appointment, prejudice and bias

the international. This is an account of how London became Londonism, and by extension, how Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa are on a similar path. *Canadians* readers will recognize the elements that nations reduced billions, right down to the trendy insurers, politicians and police chiefs who refuse to say the word "Islam" in reference to terrorist attacks except to condemn perceived Islamophobia.

"For Phillips," wrote British journalist Daniel Johnson in *Canary*, "Toronto is a nation in denial about Islam, about terrorism, about Israel, and above all about itself." Canada is not far behind.

"When Phillips first appeared on the British news scene in the mid 1980s, she was the toast of the coast. As a reporter, she was rarely intimidated by her peers in the British Press Awards, which she also routinely won. It was not until 1987, when she became a columnist for the *Guardian*, that the son of her world began to change. An early column blaming Britain's educational decline on trendy teaching rather than the *de rigueur* values Mrs. Thatcher was the first warning sign to the left that she was not one of them. Never again would she be nominated for a press award. When in 2006, the infidels revisited in the Palestinian territories and Phillips focused on the double standards being applied to the opening up of the city, she was on the verge of a

Specializing in domestic politics, Phillips, a Jew herself, had never paid much attention to Israel. Insofar as she ever thought about Israel, the country looked to her like "a political basket case and thus a vague source of embarrassment." When Israel became the pin-up for all evil in the world, Phillips looked again. Her defence of Israel was based not on naive lyrics. Zionism but on the rigorous application of liberal principles to its situation.

"Overnight everything changed," she says matter of fact. "I became the extreme right-wing Zionist and I also became the Jew. From being a right winger to be treated with distrust, overnight I became 'radical,' 'extreme,' and simply a pariah beyond the pale altogether. When I stood face on TV—such as Israel being the only democracy in the Middle East—I was jeered, biased and booed."

Practically ostracized and heavily discredited in responsible discussion on the Middle East, Phillips became something of a lone figure in left-wing papers such as the *Guardian*. "The trouble with Melanie," one group of prominent British newspaper columnists are reported to have said, "is that she's just, well, so very Jewish."

This British dislike of Jews is a element not present to give the same dignity in North America. Traditionally, the left has distracted

attention from any of its anti-Semitism either by invoking the spectre of neo-Nazism or the old canard of a Jewish-belted conspiracy of Israel. One significant aspect of a U.K. all-party parliamentary inquiry into anti-Semitism released last week was its reference to the left's anti-Semitism, officially noted perhaps for the first time.

The social and professional marginalization of a journalist defending Israel in Europe can be achieved because the left—first drawn as strictly to any cause that labels itself as progress, rationalism or neo-capitalism—has such a strong hold on the news and media, when right-wing news there is still called Jewish for the old reasons in their long, evil history. North American media avastation in Israel seems predicted on reflex anti-



The U.K.'s reference to the left's anti-Semitism was a first

American, rather than old-fashioned anti-Semitism. You can almost hear the grating sound of the CBC's pro-left reporters doing their best to be impartial and serving every nerve in the string.

Israel's demarcation, accomplished by using completely different standards to judge it than are used for any other country (as in the two emergency resolutions on the Middle East last week led by the NDP), is simply a modern variant of traditional anti-Semitism. Anti-Semitism today rarely recalls W.B. Yeats's vision: "...a shapeless mass of the desert / A shape with long body and the head of man / A give Mark and poison to the sun..." It is the brain sloughing towards Londonism. ■



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A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF CONDOLEEZZA RICE

On Tuesday, the U.S. secretary of state—speaking at a press conference in Nova Scotia—thanked the government of Syria for stopping a terrorist attack on the U.S. Embassy in Damascus. In Nova Scotia to recognize Canada's post-9/11 support, Rice accompanied Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Peter MacKay on a tour of the province, which included a visit to Bellevue's Museum of Red Entry and a stop at a Tim Hortons in Placentia, where she ordered a black coffee with sweetener.

Good news

The right note

It was erudite, and it was a tad brief, but Stephen Harper's address on the fifth anniversary of 9/11 was important nonetheless. The war in Afghanistan, he said, is not for all, even though we are ordered by the United Nations, "to deal with the source of the 9/11 terror, and to end, once and for all, the brutal regime that horribly mistreated its own people while oppressing terrorists." Because of the efforts of Canadian troops, he said, "we must now have human rights as human beings. Tonight is our getting the chance to go to school. And every, but not yet all, Afghan families are beginning to rebuild their lives, with our help." After months of awkward quietude, this was the articulation and heart-felt desire of the millions that Canadians were waiting for. It may not be the most popular political choice, but fighting for Afghanistan is the right thing to do. The speech was tempered only by the news that, after an appeal by NATO for member countries to send more troops, Turkey, Spain, Germany and Italy all effectively refused.

Friends in need

If a stable Palestinian Authority is preoccupied with keeping peace, then this week's move by Hamas and Fatah to form a coalition government provides reason for hope. President Mahmoud Abbas said the two rival factions would set aside their differences and form a joint government in hopes of ending the stalemate and the war that has gripped the West Bank and Gaza since recent elections. Gertung Fatah and Hamas to stop fighting, however, may have been the easy part. The real test is whether this deal means Hamas is finally willing to halt violence,

cease the kidnapping, cattle, and resource trade.

Maverick moves

Only the star of *Mission: Impossible* could make a quick move like the one that Tim Croteau pulled off this week. After a year of publicity stunts, and last month's news that Paramount Pictures was ending its 14-year partnership with Croteau, it seemed the celebrity filmmaker's career was over. Not even this month's 22-page *Vanity Fair*

Jacked up

just when it appeared the NDP was ready to become a mainstream political force, the party had to go and shatter the illusion. First, delegates at last weekend's convention in Quebec City voted for an immediate pullout from Afghanistan. Another resolution called Hezbollah "an occupation political party," ignoring the fact it's widely recognized as a terrorist organization. When MP Judy Wasylyshyn objected, she was booed

Bad news

into the auditor after his vote to an end with shouting to show force. What began as a probe into alleged kickbacks for the purchase of jetliners by Air Canada in 1998, morphed into a legal saga that tested our highest political office, spawned two scandals, and made Neilson's *Scandalous* a caution. The final nail in the language case was an Ontario Superior Court ruling that found significant gaps in the Council's evidence to support fraud charges. And so, a case that was from page news for years whippersnappers to an end with a small article in page news of the nation's newspapers.

Unwelcome tributes

Since the death of "Conciliator" Harris, there's been a string of the Great Beyond. Not at least to anyone here. After a series of "tribute attacks" perpetrated by angry Irish fans. A spokesperson for Atlantic's Wildfire Warners conservation group expressed outrage over the killings, stating that burning wildlife was "not what Harris was about." Meanwhile, an on-line gaming site unveiled Terri Trevis's *Revenge*—named for his widow—in which a character avenges her husband's death by shooting a stranger. One of Trevis's friends said, "This game is intended to be a memorial and not a funny parody." Good thing, since it is definitely not funny.

Sell in, WBH

On Oct. 14, WBH's middleweight boxer Joe Calzaghe, the long-anticipated championship in the sport, will defend his title for the 16th time. The opportunity to see Calzaghe broadcast live on screen is rare. Unfortunately for Canadian boxing fans, it's only available on HBO. ■

FACE OF THE WEEK



IN PROPHETIC U.S. (left) images and (right) images during a ceremony to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the 9/11 attacks

place spread—in which Cruise and his fiancée, Katie Holmes, finally revealed images of their baby daughter, Suri—appeared to win him back any favour in the tabloids. Last week, however, even took a surprising turn. When Cruise announced a two-year, multi-million-dollar film development deal with an investor-partnership headed by Washington Redskins owner Daniel Snyder, builder Dwight Schaefer, and Six Flags CEO Mark Sengco. On Monday, Cruise and Holmes were touring in the owner's box at a Redskins game. Guess then, how his the money

Other realizations under consideration called for nationalizing much of Canada's economy, pulling out of NAFTA, and ending the work week to 32 hours. Jack Layton called the convention by taking out the Tories, Bloc and even "turncoat" Bob Rae. The key lesson is that the NDP economy critics refuse to exit the divisions, and Canada still has no effective, moderate voice to speak against the federal Conservative government.

Case dismissed

After 11 years and around millions of dollars, the investigation

MITCHEL RAPHAEL ON PROBLEM HAIRDRESSERS, SCARY GREEN CHERRIES AND OTHER NDP ISSUES



OLIVIA CHOW and the show

WHAT'S WITH THE SHIRTSLEIN SLIPPERS, SVEND?

At the NDP convention in Quebec City, attendees expressed the hope that Bob Rae would win the Liberal leadership race. That was, they figured, when they knock on doors people will finally stop saying, "I can't support you because of Bob Rae!" Amid the crowd was Svend Robinson, who has not released an NDP endorsement in years. Robinson showed up with NDP House leader Libby Davies' shirtsleather slippers—she left them at his place the last time she visited and stayed over. Well represented at the convention was the Montreal riding of Chatham, due to the massive membership drive held before the last election to prevent former MP Dev' no-nonsense conservatism.

Dev' is also getting the nod as a Conservative. (Dunlop is now working for Conservative Veterans Affairs Minister Greg Thompson.) Some delegates stick out more than others: NDP MP Penny

Priddy (Surrey North) commented the aesthetic fun of getting a haircut right before the convention. She also used a Quebec City hair stylist for the first time because of problems with her hairdresser back home. Anyway, the result is a nice, straight short. The convention featured several keynote speakers, including Afghan parliamentarian Malalai Joya, who said she was happy to talk without having bullets thrown at her. She was also pleased that the NDP event featured lower levels than she tends to find at political gatherings back home.

Throughout the convention, American Sign Language interpreters provided translations. One of them was Rita Lushchenska, winner of the 2006 and 2007 National Sign Language Interpreting Competition. She was also pleased that the NDP event featured lower levels than she tends to find at political gatherings back home.

ODD SHOES SEEM TO BE A THEME AT THIS CONVENTION

A special reception was held at the top of the Hilton hotel for AIDS activist Stephen Lewis, who spoke at the NDP convention. Toronto MP Olivia Chow wore shirtsleather slippers worn by Canadian actress

Arthura Mendonça, which she matched with \$12 plastic shoes. The reception featured refreshments was champagne and orange juice, decorated with a green translucent cherry. Ottawa MP Paul Dewar was asked to cut the cherry and he saw Winnipeg MP Pat Martin was one back. Martin has been trying to get many more submissions from Canada, including some dyed used in foods, apparently green is not one of them.

FAITH, HOPE AND CHARITY TOWARD PEOPLE WHO SPEAK FRENCH BADLY

On the Sunday of the NDP convention, endorsed minister Bill Blaikie, a Winnipeg MP, held a multi-faith prayer service attended by over 50 people in a Quebec City church. Blaikie said the NDP used to have Christian services a decade and a half ago but hasn't had any religious services since then. During the convention, a faith and social justice



convention was created, which will for the first time enable all members of the party to gather and discuss faith issues. The NDP is hoping the convention will



SVEND ROBINSON is leader

attract new members of the religious faith to the party. Christian Pastor James Loney was a guest speaker just before the official blessing. Unfortunately, the former hostage's talk was a bit of a ramble. To make matters worse, his French made Lady Fry look bilingual.

IS IGORATSEFF THE NEW CHAIRMAN MAO?

Self-appointed sen Michael Ignatieff has come out with a collection of misbehaviors button with his face done as Andy Warhol did Chairman Mao and Marilyn Monroe. "I am sure [Ignatieff] is a lot of American artists," quipped Liberal leadership hopeful Scott Brown. Unfortunately, several of the buttons had out at the Gair leadership forum in Quebec City were defective, the artwork having appeared from the metal backing. Flaming down the front-runner just before even more difficult.

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QUEBEC AND CANADA: OUR COMMON STORY

The old fight has been won, writes Liberal leadership candidate **KEN DRYDEN**. Now it's time for both sides in the national unity debate to embrace the global future—together.

If I had grown up in a francophone in Quebec, when I would have been old enough to resent, I would have resented I would have resented the power in my life being in someone else's hands. I would have been doubly proud of every special deed done by a francophone Quebecer. When I would have been old enough to do something about my place, my language, my life, I would have tried.

The question, I think, for Quebecers, for all of us, now and always, is: are we better together? Do we have a story together?

I grew up in the Thémis suburb of Boucherville. In school, we learned about the history of Canada, about the French and English, the founding of Quebec City, the Battle of the Plains of Abraham. We didn't learn much about life in Quebec, what it was like day-

they'd live in French until English-speaking Canadians. It seemed that Quebec was just like us—except for language, which made it seem really different. Later (disingenuously), we would learn that Quebec was bigger than Ontario, and (grossly) that *Arvida* had the biggest aluminum plant in the world. We also learned that Montreal was bigger than Toronto, and then (very disappointingly) it would get Expo '67 and we didn't, it would get the Olympics and we didn't.

But mostly, far as Quebec was the Canadiens, this great team that almost always won. They looked different to some kids—they looked French. When the players came off the ice, their trainers put white towels around their necks (no others did). The "e" rather than the "a" in their name. And their players—Jacques

Plants, who wandered out of his net and wore a mask. And the Rocket. In schoolyard arguments about who was better, Rocket Richard or Gordie Howe, I always took Howe. All Richard could do was score, I'd say. Even then, I knew I was missing something. It

A person is holding a small white card. The card has the text "ARTS & CRAFTS" at the top, followed by "100% COTTON" and "MADE IN AUSTRIA". There is a small logo on the card, which appears to be a stylized figure or animal. The card is being held up, and the person's hand is visible.

DIYGEN flashes the "We're No. 1" sign after the Habs win the Cup in 1976. In Quebec City for a debate (top)

wasn't until later that I discovered what

I had very little other connection with Quebec. Then, in 1978, I signed a contract with the Canadiens. My wife and I arrived in Montreal the September, just after our honeymoon. We were 23. On our first afternoon, we walked down St. Catherine Street, saw a familiar name, and went into Toe Blin's Tavern. People started yelling. When someone told us that women weren't allowed to converse in Quebec. We had a lot to learn.

A month later, tanks were on the streets—



It was the October 1961. Nine months later, I was again going down the Coliseum stairs—in a parade with the Stanley Cup. On November 25, 1976, we played at the Forum against the St. Louis Blues—while across town at Paul Horne Arena, Red Tannebaum and the QJ were celebrating their victory.

It was an amazing, formative time. What was so special about Quebec was a pride you could feel everywhere. I have been around believers, and Quebec in the 1970s was a province of believers—in a separate Quebec, in a united Canada. This was the pride of people fighting for something. And it was never a question of who was prouder in being a Quebecer—sovereignist or federalist—though it sometimes seemed that way. It was about on what side of the political divide you put yourself to express that pride best.

Pride was what the Rocker was all about. Jean Effenberg, the other great Canadian star of their time, was elegant, majestic—the face of Quebec that English Canadians admired. Richard was so driven, so uncompromising, so defiant, so dangerous—those eyes. He was the face of Quebec that English Canadians didn't want. Later, Richard would become the perfect symbol of the "Oul" side. He had been a hero to many of Quebec's sovereignist leaders. But if English Canada had understood him, he would have been the perfect symbol of the "West" side (irony proud, determined to be what he was, never taking a backward step, always a Quebecer and always a Canadian).

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It was the Quebec of the Redout that I discovered in my years in Montreal. Today, in how I look at pride and difference and similarity, in how I look at this country, I realize how much of that Quebec is still in me. It is a big part of the reason why I'm in this leadership race.

To me, the future of the Canada-Quebec relationship doesn't rest with fiscal amendments, nor the open and renewed negotiating, out of differing definitions of whether Quebec is a nation. It has to do with whether there is a common story that can make us collectively proud. Not an enlightened minority, but a common story inside the belly of the average person in Red Deer and Seoul.

What is the Canada story?
We started as two countries.

We didn't set out to do this. It happened because of our Canadian experience. We have shaped each other, sometimes because of each other, sometimes in spite of each other, but together we have created something unique in the world. It is an achievement and a story that can make us all—those in Red Deer, Seoul, Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver—stand a little straighter.

It's also a story that works for those who do not speak English or French as their first language, who sometimes reject our French-English perceptions. Yet our process—

**"WE HAVE SHAPED EACH OTHER—
SOMETIMES IN SPIE OF EACH
OTHER. TOGETHER, WE HAVE
CREATED SOMETHING UNIQUE."**

part. We've done it. It's already in us. Now we can go our separate ways.

Keep this in mind about the past. Bureaucracy is about the past. Fighting the Canada fight, as federated laws, on the basis of dollars and cents and fear of change, is about the past. And a Canada and a Quebec that focus on each others also about the past. Then about us in the world. This is about the future.

What defines us historically was difference, the difference of language, of culture and custom, and with that came discrimination, alienation, divide. The "Two Solitudes." So long in difference is the framework in which Quebecers see themselves, in which the three fight three fight, the Canada-Quebec relationship will never end. But it has evolved—the diets, the official "delicacies," just haven't noticed. What defines our relationship now is commonality, the common-



ALL OF US are struggling with how to make a borderless world work. Canada has moved down this path more successfully than anyone.

side by side by side, with different languages, cultures, religions and laws. We had to live with each other, so we did. We created a nation—more than a victory here, Canada is an immensely successful country by almost any measure. And we are a true global country, with an unimaginable mix of peoples, languages, religions. Because of our French and English history, we created innovations and developed understandings that have allowed differences to thrive. We have evolved a "live and let live" attitude that allows a bilingual country to work.

pardon is not just about language. It is about the Canadian story, of how we got here as a country. Why immigrants chose Canada and why they love it here. To those immigrants, be grateful for that French speaking community in Quebec that has fought so hard to be what it is. They didn't know it, but they were also fighting for you. This "live and let live" society we have created is what allows a multicultural country to work. This is a story all Canadians can understand. The saying goes: might make, stay, stay, but, but even if I accept what you say, it's the

city of outlook and attitude, the commonality of shared experience.

I hate official "delicacies." They take over language. They force you to eat sole or another, force a choice. Their choice. Ask you this, so are you? They define you.

In Quebec a "naïveté"? To me, this isn't about a legal definition. It's about what as a Quebecer you find yourself to be. And if that's what you feel, then what you are. If that helps to make you the best of what you are, that's great for you and it's great for Canada. Just as long as the official "delicacies"

PHOTOGRAPH BY LAM HALLGREN

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NATIONAL

don't make you think you can't be part of Canada as well? You are. Because just as Canada has been shaped by Quebec, so has Quebec been shaped by Canada.

Is there a "fiscal imbalance"? Sure—that a constant outcome of the federal and provincial and territorial governments having different powers. At different times, the mix of those powers is more or less expensive to each. In 1987, publicly funded education and health were neither very important nor costly. Not today. Each province and territory also has its own priorities. Quebec values early learning and child care, spending far more

than used to make child care the same priority with other provinces? When the other provinces had made roads or public safety their priorities and Quebec didn't, why shouldn't Quebec now have the right to spend its money on new priorities? So Quebec said it would spend its new funds on the well-being of children and families. This is a fiduciary. It works together to work just if only with work within big, common understanding of itself.

I think, truly, we don't know what a great country we, all of us together, have created. I think, truly, we don't know how good we



"IMMIGRANTS should be grateful the French-Canadian community has fought so hard"

or otherwise other province, changing Quebec's fiscal circumstances.

On "fiscal imbalance" defined this way, as a federal government, you work with the provinces and territories, you adapt, you help make the federal system work. It is your constitutional responsibility over that every province and territory can provide for its citizens reasonably comparable public services at reasonably comparable levels of taxation. Federal money balances things out. Circumstances and priorities change. Equalization and territorial formula financing need to change, to strike the right balance.

Is there a "fiscal imbalance" as defined by the official "definition"? That's a different question. To them, fiscal imbalance keeps money in a provincial government's hands to spend out for its priorities, interfering in other jurisdictions. To this question, the answer is "no."

As prime minister, I would deal with the provinces and territories as I did when I was minister of social development negotiating child care agreements. Quebec had invested in child care, for care and for earlier than any other province. Should Que-

bec have been for each other? But we had better know soon. Countries become what they think they are.

The old fight has been won. Quebec's culture is surviving and will continue to survive. It is possible to be different and the same at the same time. It is time to win what's next, not to keep winning what has already been won. And what's next is the global world of our future, it's a season of great history, but what we're going into that future is what's in us—our learning, our experiences, our understandings and attitudes that have come from our French and English beginnings and struggles. It is what the world needs from us, what we need to succeed in the world. Once Quebecers needed to fight the past to win the present. Now they, we, must engage the future.

As much as we drive each other crazy at times, we're good for each other. All of us today are struggling with how to make a better, kinder, global world work. Canada has moved down this path more successfully than anyone else. The rest of the world is watching. We don't have a right to fail.

Canada does have a common story. ■

PHOTOGRAPH BY LISA MCKENNEY

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KING RALPH'S PARTING SHOTS

The Alberta premier is retiring, but not before telling us what he really thinks

BY IEN MACGOWAN • Ralph Klein—outgoing premier of the money machine that is Alberta—was in his sprawling legislative office this late August afternoon, looking at his horoscope, graced and dandied. He has just warmed the seat for the second no-her Question Period; he will over stand outside, in an otherwise legislature he's never much liked. The tone of the opportunist's outings—outrage both real and imagined—is the stuff of any democratic chamber in the land. But that's where the similarity ends.

Alberta is blessed with prosperity and drenching cash. The only date this province, it will have \$16 billion stuffed into various savings and endowment funds by the end of this fiscal year. It has more than the country's population, yet it galed up a surplus last year larger than the federal government's, even after paying every Albertan \$400 in "Ralph Bucks." Well, you've got to do something with the \$1600 "buck" in chalking the streets, flagging the doors, and dandied the town. Half the province is being rebuilt on a grander scale. The other half would be too if not for the dammed labour shortage. It's a crisis, says Klein's enemies—the sort of crisis any other leader in North America would kill for. And yet, prosperity has been King Ralph's calling. He knows enough. "You're stupid!" Well, it is a strong, if not quite that simple. That week, Klein will deliver to the Canadian prime minister a letter announcing



THE COLOSSUS of Alberta has some advice for the PM, mainly on 'spooky Liberal' issues

his intention to resign as both premier and the MLA for Calgary-Elbow once a new leader is chosen by the end of the year. Many of the nine declared candidates for the job have been riding Klein for five years, waiting for the first shot of vulnerability. That came in 2004, when, during the deep political feud—electoral victory as premier, Klein admitted it was his last campaign. He'd also asked to leave by 2005, but he was determined both the disqualification in the party with his future down the road, and the longer of his own, once law was back was on the legislative menu. The result was a split 54 per cent support at the

party convention this spring. His friend, Peter Blaikie, interim executive director of the party, gave Klein the vote result minutes before it was announced on the convention floor. "It broke my heart for the man, it wasn't a pleasant task," Blaikie says. "He said, 'Well, Peter, I guess that means I've just pushed the next period in which I leave'."

In fact, Klein was crushed. His wife, Colleen, perhaps the country's most influential and iron-willed political spouse, called the vote "dirty politics at its best." Even today, Klein admits, the vote result burns. "But having had time to give it some thought, I believe

delegates voted not so much against me but against the time I had allowed myself to wind my efforts down in private." Certainly that's what he took from a spring and summer farewell tour as he galloped and barbaled his way through small towns and rural Alberta. His will waves 'em in Edmonton, High Level and other "like a how Ralph Klein," said the National Post News during an August event. "This human person, he speaks at," guided the newsmen, "reminds me that how one of the people working for the people and not about the people." It's the kind of uncorrupted glow he's never had as the Alberta capital. He arrived as the rumpled, rum-soaked owner of Calgary. He leaves clinging to the illusion of his status as an outsider. "My sense is that there is tremendous support and that's a good," he says, adding with a host of hesitations, "except in Edmonton."

The heartland is where he built his leadership base in 1989 as an ambitious news entrepreneur, accepting invitations to every business, cheque presentation and ribbon-cutting he could find. His mannerly ability to rock up the public mood, do it all and communicate it in simple terms had already made him a success as a television reporter, and then a star as Calgary mayor, says Rod Love, an adviser, friend and confidant. Love had signed on in 1990 as political boss to Klein's first run for mayor. "It was tough," he recalls. Still, he says Klein had moved out the public mood of a city that in a boom cycle "that nobody was willing as what's going on our city, change is coming too fast."

That ability to read the winds served him well, particularly in pursuit of his singular achievement as premier—eliminating the deficit and debt. "There never was that right-wing candidate in the controls in the premier's office," says Love. "There's always who proposed to Albertans that we start to run our public affairs the way we run our private affairs." It was the first "common sense revolution" in all but name, says former Ontario premier Mike Harris, who once ran followed most



RALPH AS A BABY: his reporting days (right) at the 2008 Stampede and with Paul Martin, (below) with his wife, Colleen



RALPH AS A BABY: his reporting days (right) at the 2008 Stampede and with Paul Martin, (below) with his wife, Colleen

two years later. "He was the first in Canadian my view, federally or provincially, to start talking in common sense way about deficits, deficit financing and paying your own way, providing a chance for this enterprise to thrive and reorganizing institutions to government's sole."

It was, amazingly, with the bills paid and the money flooding in, that many think Klein's order failed him. Dealing with was a clear, achievable goal, with broad general support. But it also created a backlog of needed infrastructure projects, compounded by the equivalent each year's mid-staircase down to the province by the mid-80s economy. People don't bring their schools and hospitals with them, Klein says. Is it harder to govern in times of prosperity than recession? "Some times I think it is, during the times of deficit elimination and debt reduction, no means no. No," he says. "It means maybe. No means yes, and now you still mean yes, of course. And maybe means yes. And so means maybe."

An ad describes a visit on one day parade of supplicants visiting the premier's office, each pleading for just a slice of Alberta's revenue pie for one worthy project or another. The aide told the request at day's end

\$100 million. Recent budgets have climbed by eight to 10 per cent annually. Fiscal heads call it a bonanza. "You can't say this is a fiscally conservative government," says Scott Herwig, Alberta director of the Canadian taxpayers Federation. "If you compare the first half of his tenure to the second half, it's night and day." The left calls it a "mugshot." "Having created prosperity," he contributed toward that opportunity, he has no sense of how to grasp it," says New Democrat Leader Brian Mason.

Money changes everything. Had Klein been listening, he would have heard much the same fear that plagued him into the mayor's chair: change is coming too fast. "I don't think I've been so far in saving discipline has not been the hallmark of this couple of years," says Love, who now volunteers for one-time finance minister Jim Denney, the front-runner for the leadership. "I don't want to speak of the current government, but there has been a drift." Love says Klein was warned before the convention that the party was over-



ture. "He, I guess, wanted to see that over view of himself one more time," says Love. "And, you know, nobody wants to see Bob Bush up there him!"

Somewhere along the way, the fan faded out of this for Klein. Three after his third election win in March 2005—the night a well-



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launched Klein offered "Welcome to Ralph's World" during his victory speech—and doubted the fire in his belly. Later that year, Klein tearfully swore off drink after getting into a drunken late-night altercation with a visiting cousin as a homeless shelter's sobriety didn't much improve his mood. This March, he threw a Liberal health policy boulevard at the 17-year-old female legislative page who'd delivered it from the opposition benches. He apologized, as he always does, and was forgiven as he always is. "If you screw up, then admit it, even go to it," says Klein. "It's the best way because you take a huge load off your shoulders." Mike Harris adds: "Of all the politicians I have known, including me, Ralph was the quickest to acknowledge mistakes. It isn't easy, your natural tendency is to defend."

Still, even in Ralph's World, parties were thin. Among the disillusioned in Alberta journalist Frank Dobbs, author of *Ralph Klein: A Maverick Life*, written in the mid-1990s. Klein is no longer the pragmatist, says



LAUGHING ALL THE WAY In the bank: Ralph Klein at an 18-vehicle arson project this year, with Christie in Ottawa in 1996

TOP TO BOTTOM: RALPH KLEIN; KLEIN'S VICTORY SPEECH; KLEIN'S VICTORY SPEECH; KLEIN'S VICTORY SPEECH

Dobbs, the outsider determined to shake things up in reality, "he is the leader," he says. "What has happened during the years between water in the transition from being only a one-party state to something that could be a democracy anywhere." All government information flows through his office. His liberal had got surprised as open with Klein legislative oversight. Standing policy committees are 100% only caucus affairs, with opposition membership, or even the right to attend in many cases. "On some it's more open and far more accountable than the provincial government in Alberta," says Klein. "That's true whether we're talking about the auditors general, the public accounts committee, the use of government aircraft, freedom of information legislation, [lack of] all-party committees, the lobbyist registry."



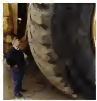
LET THEM SAY KAY Alberta's centennial year proved to be not so great for Klein

Talk scores Klein of running on "nostalgia" since stepping up his departure, he's travelled to Montana, spent \$50,000 on a "massive" to France and Ukraine, with an agenda so tight it flowed off the page, and visited Washington to promote energy exports. A trip to China was cancelled amid

heavily of outrage. In the legislature, Klein had the many Alberta towns he visited this summer (usually tied to a charity golf game) "And then... and the caucus." Liberal MLA headed, at odds with the well-known province for pushing. Klein opened the week.

But all over frustration, both Tait and Mann of the New Democrats can only marvel at Klein's continuing hold on the public's affection, which endures not only accepts of his failures,

**WILL KLEIN RESUME SOCIAL
DRINKING ONCE HE'S RETIRED?
'MAYBE,' HE SAYS. 'WHO KNOWS?'**



frustrates and mistakes, but because of them. "He is," Tait concedes, "the colonel of Alberta politics." The colonel sits this afternoon in an office stuffed with 36 years of political mementos: model planes and boats, bowls, plaques, photographs and paintings of others that he notes his last days have not been spent in a ditch, he's established an innovation fund to foster research in alternate energy sources from coal bed methane to solar. There's \$2 billion set aside to assist Alberta's leader in post-secondary education, and a \$100-million endowment for cancer research. When his successors will take Alberta in five years, he said it possibly know it will be water Canada, he believes, though there are a few who advocate otherwise. It will have more muscular and clearly defined powers, he hopes.



Klein has already given five priorities to Stephen Harper, who is not only Prime Minister but the MP for his Calgary riding. He lists them in the messy fingers of one hand: Gun control. "Get rid of it, it's good." Kill the Kyoto Protocol. "Let us design our own devices to address global warming, as that we are a resource-based, carbon-based based economy." Same-sex marriage. "That's a life sentence. Fine, I have a lot of homosexual friends, but I have the constitution of our rights." Senate. "For God's sake, reform it."

GRENADA

tion or "Eliminate the Canadian Wheat Board." Let our farmers compete fairly relative to the state of their wheat and barley? Address them, he asked Harper, "because they're going, Liberal, to other issues."

It's true: some of the leaders he's outlined in 24 years in power. There's Harris, of course, his first fiscal ally and accidental golfing buddy. There's Jean Charest, another seat of 20 years popular. "I had been prime minister 20 years ago, I might have been a Liberal," Paul Martin. "Paul was more laid-back and unassuming. He wasn't loose enough. I think he covered on the advice of his senior officials too much." Bob

Thor: reward from the party. "I don't know what I'll get from therapy," Klein says. "They can surprise me if they want." Will he resume social drinking? "Maybe," he says.

HE LEAVES SENSING 'TREMENDOUS' SUPPORT, 'EXCEPT,' HE ADDS, A TOUCH BITTERLY, 'IN EDMONTON'



KLEIN REACTS to a reporter's question at a news conference (above), with Prime Minister Stephen Harper in Ottawa in 2006.

"Maybe 'Who knows?' He'll live in Calgary, of course, and will his stands in Edmonton. He'll work for three public policy think tanks: the Fraser Institute, the (Fraser) Manning Centre for Building Democracy, and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington. He'll raise with the ethics commissioner before coming out of a few private sector offers, he says.

Oh, and he'll finish the communication degree he's been picking at through the distance education program at Athabasca University. He's got about four courses left. "I kind of like it, it's like a challenge, you feel less and less like a student," he says. "He walks out to the temple of course books on his desk. He picks up a 160-page text, Communication Theory and Analysis. It's heavy on the theory, dissecting Aristotle's three parts of persuasive oration, pathos and logos. "I've known," he says, "ethics, passion, and logic." He studies his text. "It bears no resemblance to the studies of communication," he says. "I would hate to tell my professor that."

He's still chafing at the interview with *Atlantic*, what does he know about himself?

THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S STRAIGHT-UP LINE THING

"I know there are times that it seems that things aren't going in a straight line," said U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice during the year in Afghanistan during a visit to Kabul. "My historic commitment will be to go in a straight line." Adding his thoughts on Canada's Afghan presence, Foreign Affairs Minister Peter MacKay notes, "There's an old Maritime expression: 'Boats are safe in the harbour, but that's not what they're made for.'"



The next battle over language law

Will protecting Inuktitut save a culture, or hold its children back?

BY OLIVER CAMPBELL • On the dusty streets of Inuktitut, Nunavut, signposts read in two languages: English and the equally official characters of Inuktitut. So do signs at the post office, bank and grocery store. Inuktitut is the first language for 70 per cent of the territory's 30,000 residents, and by some measures appears to be the healthiest indigenous language in the country. But here in the capital, across about 1,600, English is the language of choice among young Inuit. Children wear Spengel's Square Pants T-shirts, and buy the

latest iPhone. The place is almost entirely bilingual, so to learn Inuktitut, at a small table in a room looking out over Frobisher Bay. On this day, the lessons are on hold while the centre puts the finishing touches on a two-year project translating Microsoft's Windows operating system and Office business software into Inuktitut. "It's not easy," says Loren Bow, one of the centre's founders, about the software, which will be used primarily by government. "If we do nothing now, Inuktitut could end up in a very threatened state."

TO SUCCEED, YOUNG PEOPLE NEED STRONG ENGLISH SKILLS, A CRITIC SAYS. 'BY GRADE 4, THEY'RE BEHIND'



INUKTITUT has set up new routes to teach teenagers Inuktitut. Street signs are bilingual.

But if we take the right steps it could be an indigenous language for a long time to come." It's an uphill battle. The big concern these days is the lack of Inuktitut in the education system. Nunavut's population is the youngest in Canada (almost half are under 19) and according to one government survey, only 10 per cent of its teen-agers had the language they speak most often at school. The language is taught up to Grade 3 or 4, but then tapers off in favour of English instruction. "In Nunavut this education the colonial message of inferiority. The best students are mostly white, then Inuit students," said Theresa Berger, a former B.C. Supreme Court justice, in a report last year that also noted a "severe" shortage of Inuktitut-speaking teachers.

Some argue that young people in Inuktitut are different because of the difficulty navigating different dialects. But Louis-Jacques Dorais, a member of Université de Laval who has documented Inuktitut's decline, says other factors are at play. Because English is the language of pop culture and business, Inuktitut "is being increasingly limited to petty topics, on the one hand, and highly symbolic domains on the other," he says. Serious social issues are also understood exclusively in English. School dropouts are not uncommon—only about a quarter of Inuktitut graduates from high school—and drug abuse and suicides are rampant.

In more isolated communities on the edge of Inuktitut, Inuktitut appears much healthier. Many of the older residents are unilingual Inuktitut speakers. Still, even in places like

Pangnirtung, a tiny hamlet on Inuktitut's north coast, English use is on the rise. "It started when the government sent people off to school in

places like Charnick," says Annapa Michael, 26, who worries about the type of education her school son, Wayne Wilson, will receive. "My first priority is to teach him Inuktitut. That's the way I was taught, so that's the way I'll teach him." Asked about the challenge of protecting Inuit culture, though, he sighs. "It's complicated."

Not everyone backs Nunavut's plans to prep up Inuktitut. For young people to succeed as professionals (like doctors or lawyers), they must have strong English skills, insists Nancy Gillis, a city councillor in Inuktitut. Inuktitut skills and a strong education system risk being lost in the scramble to preserve Inuktitut, she says. "By the time children hit Grade 4, they're behind already," she says. Otherwise feeling less and less Inuktitut is also marginal. Many of the skilled managers and business leaders are not Inuit, or Inuktitut speakers. The majority of last

year's best and brightest training and post-secondary education to fill gaps in jobs. Only about 10 per cent of the government jobs are held by Inuit (who make up 10 per cent of the population), and most of these jobs are lower-level positions. Nunavut isn't the worst of the few languages that will drive away a qualified workforce. To reverse Inuktitut's decline, young Inuit need to be able to hold the most important positions in society while maintaining their culture, he adds. "When we're not growing up, our parents told us that we had to learn English if we want to work in the outside world. There will be jobs and money," they said. "Now that the Inuit have their own land and their own government, he says, they want more change."



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TYRANTS OF THE CARIBBEAN

The virulently anti-Western Non-Aligned Movement is having its coming-out party in Havana this week

BY MICHAEL PETROS • This week in Havana, Fidel Castro, the Cuban dictator, is welcoming diplomats and heads of state from some 115 nations on a journey back to the Cold War. The Non-Aligned Movement was formed in 1961 as a bloc of mostly developing countries who were not officially aligned with either the United States or the Soviet Union—although in reality the organization almost always opposed America and Russia. With the fall of global Communism, most observers assumed that the Non-Aligned Movement would fade into irrelevance along with other relics from the era. But the movement is resurfacing, and it's a far from easy. "We're not of all stripes, from Islamists to Communists, and that week's Non-Aligned Summit in Havana is its coming-out party."

The invited guests read like a who's who from George W. Bush's own crew, or at least

the sort of states he doesn't like very much. Iranian president and nuclear weapons empire Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is expected, as is Bashar al-Assad of Syria. Hugo Chavez of Venezuela and Evo Morales of Bolivia. Even Fidel Castro is scheduled to make his first public appearance since fleeing secretly into this summer. "Any system will be invited to this thing. It really doesn't matter," said Robert Mollison, a research associate at the Center for Security Policy in Washington, a conservative think tank.

McAuliffe argues that the Non-Aligned Movement is a resurgent and growing threat to American and Western interests. Member states form alliances, which they use to embolden with other and strengthen themselves in other international organizations such as the United Nations. "What you see in this group when they come together is that someone like Fidel Castro is not an outlier as much. The outliers become the United States and Israel and some of our other allies. The organizations that could have it that could embolden someone like Fidel Castro to feel that he can play an international role."

CHAVEZ (right) and Castro (left) stand up to Bush, and to the threats of Iran. It is the coming-out party for the movement.

to feel that he and Evo Morales in Bolivia and Chavez in Venezuela could lead an alternative path in Latin America. "We're not, for our part, not expressing much outward concern. As some Department spokesmen told McAuliffe, "It's for individual countries to decide the type of relations they want with states like Iran, Cuba, North Korea. It's for states to decide what they stand for." And, in fact, the Non-Aligned Movement also contains several democracies and powerful friends of the United States, such as India. However, systems released by the organization reflect opposition to the United States and its democratic allies.

Israel "was created," for example, are condemned, although little or nothing is said about Palestinian terrorism. Terrorism does feature heavily in NAM policy documents, though. Apparently, the actions of "terrorists" like Hamas and Hezbollah are not

seen as "terrorism" to target other states "under the pretext of combating terrorism" and the "perpetrators of these acts are of alleged supporting terrorism" is used "as a form of psychological and political terrorism." In other words, Iran and Syria—sponsors of Hezbollah—are not guilty of terrorism, the United States is.

The Non-Aligned Movement also claims to support the right of self-determination for peoples living in "non-autonomous territories," and in such has supported the minority of Puerto Ricans who seek independence. This support doesn't apply to the ancient Middle Eastern Kurds, however. And Taiwan, in the words of a Cuban government-controlled *Granma* newspaper article promoting the organization, is a "puppet regime."

McAuliffe traveled this week and interviewed several participants in the Non-Aligned summit. The conference itself is taking place in a large complex on the outskirts of town, surrounded by high-rise towers. There are billboards throughout the city depicting George W. Bush with bloody flags, or promoting the movement with slogans such as "Let's globalize solidarity" (although few Cubans who talked about the conference expressed similar enthusiasm). "We live in a singular world, and maybe the bloc positions will be able to challenge the singular world," said one conference delegate, an African ambassador to Cuba who did not want to be named. "The Cold War may be over, but the problems of the developing world remain the same."

Other delegates insisted that the movement is not opposed to the United States, just the way it sometimes conducts itself. "This movement for the developing world to support each other," said Cheick Diarra, a delegate from Mali, who was interviewed in Venezuela on his way to Havana. "It is not against anyone. It is only against things being done unfairly, especially by a superpower which affects millions of people in developing countries."

Robert Hunter, a senior adviser at the RAND think tank and the United States ambassador to NATO from 1993 to 1998, downplayed the importance of the summit. He told McAuliffe that the Havana summit and the Non-Aligned Movement no longer have much relevance. The summit is like a college reunion for

some of the old anti-colonialist revolutionaries like Castro, and it is a chance for "young leaders" like Hugo Chavez to get a lot of attention, but the organization itself is largely clapped out. "I hope the food is good. The cause it's not going to be a terribly important meeting," he said.

However, a delegate from an Arab country allied with the United States, who did not want to be named, said that the Non-Aligned Movement is powerful when its member states work together. "It has relevance because of its numerical value,"

he said. "Transfer as the United Nations is concerned, you can often have 100 votes in favor of certain positions of the Non-Aligned Movement has decided to support it. So at a bloc, this represents a considerable number of the world. It still has relevance. In the context of the United Nations, it can be quite useful."

Then is why Iran's diplomatic involvement in the movement, and with member states such as Cuba and Venezuela, should concern the United States. Iran's strategy in Iran depends on relations, an enduring link with a unified global front. Already, Russia and China, two states with a strong right in the UN Security Council, are unlikely to hold Iran against Iran, and the Non-Aligned Movement is a potential supporting cast of more than 100 states.

The Iranians are "trying to reinforce the idea that if military action were used against Iran, they would not be isolated, at least diplomatically."



POSTER BOYS: Syrian new warlord Bashar al-Assad in Damascus (left); a mural in Caracas (center) depicts Venezuelan president Chavez and Cuba's Castro

CASTRO: AP/WIDEWORLD; CHAVEZ: AP/WIDEWORLD; ASSAD: AP/WIDEWORLD; POSTER: AP/WIDEWORLD



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usually," said Hunter. And if Iran desperately needs funds, it's sending them across after Non-Aligned states whose governments are gathering in Havana.

Just last week, Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki paid a visit to President Alexander Lukashenko of Belarus, who has been dubbed Europe's last dictator. Belarus is also a member of the Non-Aligned Movement. According to the Iranian government press agency, the Commerce director praised Iran's efforts to obtain nuclear power, and the Iranian foreign minister suggested that all member states use the Havana summit to strengthen the Non-Aligned Movement.

"The Non-Aligned Movement is very much aligned with [Misra's] ideology, which is very much anti-American, anti-imperialism," said Karam Sadeghpour, an Iran analyst at the International Green Group, a conflict resolution NGO headquartered in Brussels. "Despite the fabric of Islamic solidarity, Muslim solidarity, countries like Venezuela and Cuba have been kinder to Iran than countries like Egypt and Jordan and Saudi Arabia in terms of their voting patterns, especially at the International Atomic Energy Association."

Sadeghpour noted that countries such as Iran, Belarus, Cuba and Venezuela have little in common other than an antipathy toward the United States, but this is often enough. "It is the enemy of my enemy is my friend mentality," he said. "Cuba's stance up to Bush. Castro stands up to Bush. The same they're friends of Iran. Although in terms of ideology, you have an Islamist and a socialist, who usually don't see eye to eye on anything."

Sadeghpour says that Iran is engaged in a global war for influence and support against the United States. The primary front is the Middle East and the Muslim world, where Iranian proxies such as Hezbollah and other unaffiliated Islamist groups have been growing in strength. But Cuba and Venezuela pressure Iran with potential allies in America's own backyard, and Venezuela is doubly sensitive because of its large reserves of oil.

"By aligning with Venezuela, they see that this is a country that is in the United States' hemisphere and is an important country given its oil resources, and [Iran] would like to have them under [its] sphere of influence from that the U.S. sphere of influence," said Sadeghpour. In the Non-Aligned Movement, a threat to the U.S. is a threat to itself, so that Iran is a potential threat but the Non-Aligned Movement is not, given that Iran is a part of it. I would argue that the friendship of these countries does not pose a military threat to the United States. But given the energy resources they control, they have the ability to cause havoc in the global economy." ■

FRANCIS LEUNG/REUTERS

CAN WE LIVE WITHOUT BLAIR?

An amateurish coup turns a courageous international statesman into a lame duck

BY MARTIN NEWLAND • In early October 2004, as I was driving home from church, I received an unexpected phone call from the switchboard at Number 10 Downing Street, asking me to stand by while I was connected to Tony Blair, the Prime Minister.

Blair had just announced his decision not to seek a fourth term, and he was calling around Fleet Street editors in an attempt to persuade them that he was not a "lame duck" and that he had both the time and the mandate to see through his domestic reform program. I disagreed, arguing that his announcement was likely to inflame, rather than calm, speculation about the leadership of the Labour Party, and would present

He was wrong. Last week, unusual plotting and mass resignations forced Blair to publicly announce that he would be gone in less than a year (Gordon Brown, Blair's formidable chancellor [finance minister] and probable successor, is now sitting about the business of consolidating power within the party, and "Blairite" cabinet ministers, who feel they have alienated favour in a Brown government, are casting about for leadership candidates to oppose him).

And so it is that a country facing a worsening economic climate, a stalled domestic policy program, and war in Afghanistan and Iraq, will have to wait while Labour Party factions vie with each other to secure their respective futures.

The current war has three roots in a pact concluded between Blair and Brown before Labour's historic 1997 election victory, in which the latter promised not to fight for the leadership of the Labour Party if the former gave



UNDER PRESSURE With his party abandoning him, Blair is forced into an early exit

overwhelming problems for a domestic and foreign policy program that large parts of the electorate and the party detested.

With characteristic self-belief, the Prime Minister argued that he did not, like Margaret Thatcher, want to "go in forever," and that he would in the next generation of leadership give them time to prepare for government. He said he had the mandate, the support, and the energy to lead "New Labour" to plain as Britain's first successful governing party of the center-left.

Since a crack at the top job after the so-called "New Labour" project had backed itself in

Both men collaborated to establish New Labour's model of "Third Way" governance, a combination of (relative) free-market economics with the perquisites of social justice. The birth of New Labour was happily attended with unprecedented growth in the economy. Everybody was making money, and they got to have a conscience. But the "third way" political dynamic was successfully succeeded by Margaret Thatcher's grim way to a new,

and official ceremonies, sometimes literally, sometimes quite by accident, Britain has found common strategic cause with its English-speaking allies. It is this profound attachment to the Anglosphere that has led to Blair's strong relationship with the Bush regime. The same attachment underpins Australia's support for the war in terror: it is significant that Canadian, United States and British troops are the only Western soldiers losing their lives in the field in Afghanistan.

It appears that whenever international circumstances demand military intervention, it is men from the Anglosphere that are ready to get their hands dirty.

Blair's relationship with the United States was also born from history and pragmatism. The United States intervened often in the last century to stop Europe tearing itself apart, and allowed Western Europe to shatter under a new dawn during the dangerous days of the Cold War. From constant disaster management to Italian genocide, the United States has always been at the centre of efforts to prosecute the collapse of all too many empires, not always to speed and determination all efforts by the United Nations or even positive "G8o Army".

Blair does not deny European leaders seem to understand that the cycle of worldwide terrorist violence has little to do with Iraq or Palestine. When Osama bin Laden first took to the news after 9/11, he did not mention Palestine, but rambled on instead about the recognition of Muslim Spain centuries ago. He also attacked an article in *Washington Post* coming regardless of the reporter's title, and Blair is one of the few Western leaders who formalised his foreign policy accordingly.

This week, David Cameron, the leader of the newly resurgent Conservative Party, gave a speech upholding the United States first to permit private foreign policy. Cameron is keen to replace growing war Americanisation in Britain and, with his correct awareness that he is not a "neo conservative," risks overturning the traditional strong bond between Conservative administrations have enjoyed with the White House.

What does Britain think of all this? It has kept pretty silent over these tactics, probably because they have proved such a liability to

3026-07-0308 Blair's loyal support of Bush has turned nasty against him



BRITAIN IS AT RISK OF SINKING INTO THE MORASS OF HAND-WRINGING AND HEAD-IN-THE-SAND DIPLOMACY

Blair. But it is unlikely that he shares the same world view as the Prime Minister (he seems more taken with debt relief for Africa), and he must know that the fastest way to consolidate political power is to reverse obsolete Blair's foreign policy.

So it might be that, with Blair gone, Britain risks sinking into the morass of hand-wringing, head-in-the-sand diplomacy that so characterises European foreign policy. I'm not in Europe's interest that its diplomatic "bridge" to the United States, represented by Blair's government, crumbles into the Atlantic.

Already, the fading frenzy has prompted many reconsiderations of what Blair's legacy might be. His critics point to the dead in Afghanistan and Iraq, and to the toll of victims of terrorist atrocities since the invasion of the latter country. His allies point to his "rescue" of the public services.

But some are now beginning to construct a new legacy for Blair: we see in France the emergence of two modernising presidential

candidates from the left and right—respectively, Stéphanie Royal and Nicolas Sarkozy, whose platforms appear to be based on Blair's unique centre-left model of government. In the words of Philip Stephens, author of *The Making of a World Leader: "Blair's brand of centre-leftism changed the rules in politics... By demanding drastic reform from politics, voters from politics, he has been (and/or should have) the left from its old obsessions. Economic efficiency and social justice remain the most powerful legacy in contemporary politics."*

Indeed, David Cameron has in the past described himself as "Blair's heir," much to the fury of Conservative right-wingers who believe that Tony Blair can only be replaced in accordance with Thatcherite principles. Cameron speaks of his love for the public sector, refuses to commit to tax cuts, and is big on the environment. At the same time he speaks of personal responsibility and the evils of big government. Though many of his pronouncements at this early stage seem disingenuous and sometimes plain stupid (as with the United Nations), it is strategically sound for him to gloss what he needs from the revolution wrought by one of his country's most successful prime ministers.

But, looking ahead, and with the economy looking gloomy, many are beginning to feel the pinch. Unless public services are reformed, and immigration curtailed, the only recourse for the government is to raise taxation. Already, the divisions between public and private wage earners are becoming more acute, with the latter increasingly having to find more avenues of personal income to support the former. The "them and us" sentiments that underpinned Thatcherism could be set for a return. ■

Martin Newland is a former editor of *London's Daily Telegraph* and former deputy editor of the *National Post*.



LATVIA: NO ONE WANTS TO OFFEND WITH MITTENS

The brothers of Latvia are far from a Judo pair of mittens, instead in gifts to delegates at the NATO summit in November. President Vaira Vīķe-Freibergs will present them at the conference. Although the hand-warmer will feature many traditional Latvian motifs, officials have specifically asked the knitters to avoid the "Mander Cross," an ancient symbol intended to ward off evil. It bears a close likeness to the swastika.

REUTERS/ANALYST/GETTY IMAGES

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CLOSE-UP: Bill Ford has been presiding over a slow and painful turnaround attempt

Ford Motors: an underdog story

A new documentary on Ford shows the reality behind the turmoil

BY GERRY DEEM • Inside a dimly lit boardroom at Ford Motor Co. in Dearborn, Mich., tense encounters are negotiating with widely publicized documentary filmmakers who want full access to the company so they can expose Ford's problems and pose the foreign online "There's no secret," one of them says. Mark Fields, executive vice-president for North and South American operations, sits forward in his leather chair. Camera operators and sound-of-film, who make hovers overhead. "The one thing we're trying to do throughout this organization is try to get the BS, rip out the political posturing, and get the issues out on the table, and have constructive conflict," Fields says. He smirks behind the table.

A camera man interrupts, "No time about letting it all hang out?" Fields shrugs back, "The American people love the truth. And they love an underdog. That's us."

At last that's how the company is trying to position itself in the eyes of consumers, and the Ford *Behind the Wheel* documentary is all part of that plan. The film, launched in June as one piece of a new advertising campaign, and in the 11 video episodes since that introductory "webisode," president of American operations (Ford's main business) is interviewed glowing directors, union work-

ers and even executives, all of whom bemoan the company's biggest problems—decreasing market share, dull product design, overproduction and rising costs. "Ford's ability is in a challenging environment today and in a difficult business situation. We don't necessarily think it's the time to sing and dance," says George Rogers, president of advertising agency JWT Detroit, which developed the campaign. "It's designed to deeply tell what's going on in Ford. We're telling the inside story about [the company's] turnaround."



resumes chairman) with the pledge to close 34 plants and cut 14,000 jobs by 2011, but it has been widely unimpressive. (This plan replaced earlier ineffective restructuring strategy that Ford proposed when he took over the company in 2006.) In the last quarter, Ford lost US\$154 million, and its shares sit at

around \$8 today, down from an all-time high of \$17 in 1999. "Ford cannot afford to post losses forever," Jay Palmer, a senior advisor at Barron's, warns in one episode. What's more, its U.S. market share has continued to drop for more than a decade, and Toyota Motor Corp. is aggressively threatening to take over Ford's place in the No. 2 auto market. A major factor behind General Motors Corp. According to Kevin Ryan, an analyst with Angus Research Corp. in New York, Ford's market share has fallen to 17.9 per cent so far in 2006 from 29.4 per cent last year. Toyota has climbed to 15 per cent. "We're in trouble because we can't still while others plough ahead," says Robert Sivinski, vice-president and controller for the American, in one video.

Ford's complacency in creating energy-efficient vehicles came up repeatedly in the documentary. "Ford has the worst fuel efficiency of any automaker in America," charges Jennifer Krill, director of Environmental Action Network's rare emissions campaign, in an episode, adding that its products consume some 1.8 million barrels of oil every day. While its perspective campaign invested in new ways to design and build, Ford has hoped that the success of its sports utility vehicles and F-Series trucks (which currently consume 30 per cent of the company's annual sales) will continue indefinitely. As Richard Kessel of the Mutual Resources Defense Council says in the doc, "Ford has



SOLD MOVIE: Customers, critics and workers all have their say in the campaign

a business model that depends on selling gas guzzlers at a time when people don't want gas guzzlers," whether that's because of environmental concerns or the increasingly expensive price of gas.

And, while Ryan, Ford's diesel production model-makers that the company is an (unusually) set up to make build a load of vehicles rather than various types of consumer products, which is the way he sees the market shifting. "Toysota more than doubles, more technology, more options, so to speak the credit crisis is not necessary anymore." Where other car manufacturers have taken risks with unique designs, Ford has created similar versions of the same no-nonsense-market

wholesaler for decades. "The cars that are being produced now have no style to them. They all look the same," complains Anthony Giarone, a collision repair owner on one corner, in one episode. Ford's strength in car design design gets wasted down, and "so you go to the market with wheels instead of rocky road," admits Hsu Thun-Hing, director of advanced product creation at Ford. As Ford puts it in one episode, "We have to get that design aspect. Today's about who does the customer want, not who does the factory need. And that's a big change for Ford."

That kind of blunt honesty is what makes Ford's *My Ford* so much more than a corporate exercise of the changes happening at Ford. The rebirth of the Mustang led by GT500

'WE DON'T THINK IT'S NECESSARILY THE TIME TO SING AND DANCE'

is documented with nostalgia and frothy anticipation as a hedge against GM's General Motors. The latest Ford's *My Ford* is a series of vignettes by customers who have grown up with a Ford. Children and grandchildren for free of Ford's big hybrids (now to the product mix) that will save them money on fuel.

The webisodes don't, however, take as some of the most interesting recent developments at Ford. To date, there is no "My Ford" on the new CEO, Alan Mulally, who was hired over from Boeing Co. earlier this month. While he will likely understand the manufacturing side of the business, Toyota executives of Mulally will appreciate the importance of given customers what they want. "Mulally jump on an airplane and don't really have a choice what kind of plane we get on. But I certainly have all the power when it comes to choosing what kind of car I drive," he says. Mulally's arrival could also blunt the advantages of a proposed Ford alliance with Nissan Renault, which is partly attractive because it would have given Ford access to Nissan's car CEO, Carlos Ghosn. There have been no videos about Ford selling off its luxury vehicle brands such as Jaguar, Lincoln or Volvo. Nor is there any coverage of Ford's August decision to cut fourth-quarter production some 33 per cent, to its lowest level in 25 years.

The effectiveness of Mulally, says consultant Alan Schulman of Brand New World in New York, lies in his ability to reveal the reconnection in an unceremonious way. "This will cause everyone to say, 'It's interesting. For these guys,'" he says. "It's not about Ford's products and results, but about Ford's ability to care." "The greatest advertising in the world can't tell you a product you don't want." ■

A fool and her money

An appetite for the good life is driving women into bankruptcy

BY BARBARA RICHMOND • Knocking for a Gucci "Plebe" bag or the wheel of a BMW 24 has landed young Canadian women in a slump of financial trouble. So much trouble, in fact, that a record number of them are landing in bankruptcy court. It had to happen, economists say. With more and more women holding down higher paying jobs, the access to thousands of dollars worth of credit has never been easier. Combined with the borrowing power is a new women's attitude that not only means having more than the neighbours, but having something, say, style score like Gwyneth Paltrow or Patti Hillon. Living in a rent-over land of perpetual debt is even more manageable for many until an unexpected financial shock like a job loss brings a hard day of reckoning.

In 2005, women made up nearly 41 per cent of some 64,400 bankruptcies, according to Bankruptcy Canada—still not as high as men, but up from only 25 per cent three decades ago. A whopping 87.4 per cent of the cases involved credit card debt, followed by bank and finance company loans. Big credit cards like Visa and Mastercard were widely used in suits, as were houses, all financed to the hilt. Says CIBC World Markets senior economist Benjamin Tai, "You might think that a larger participation in the labour market among women would lead to fewer bankruptcies, but with the money comes the appetite." One thing is for sure, Gucci's dilemma is no longer the preserve of low-income single mothers trying to feed their children, says Laura Campbell, executive director of Credit Canada, a non-profit credit counselling service in Toronto. "We're seeing women in their late 20s who owe \$10,000 in credit card debt," says Campbell. "Some of them owe \$60,000 a year, but most of them aren't, you can imagine the stress of money they are paying toward interest."

Young people, especially young women,

says Tai, are "more open to using debt to carry all kinds of expenses that maybe they can't afford." He calls them the Credit Card Generation in Windsor, Ont. Credit Canada's Wendy Dupuis says many young couples with money problems—there's something, good jobs, house, car, credit, home, expensive vacations. "The whole mindset is, 'I make a good income, I deserve to have these things,'" she says. "It's all about instant gratification and suspension to much way above their means."

Tai also cites increases in self-employment among women. In a 2005 study of women entrepreneurs, he reported that some 800,000 women in Canada were running their own business. Many of them were well-educated, well-paid, and overly optimistic. "Any period of self-employment," Tai says, "may have created a hole in their confidence from which they can't recover." But playing catch up is not the main problem. Dupuis blames poor money management skills on parents, particularly those who let adult kids



MISTAKES: Many more high-income women are in bankruptcy than low-income debtors

live at home and spend every cent they make. Such a lack of fiscal responsibility may foster what researchers at Cambridge University call financial phobia, an ailment they say afflicts as many as one in five Brits—particularly young women. When phobias were found to deal with financial matters, the researchers found, their heart rates soared. Some of them even became dizzy.

Clearly, ditching bankruptcy is a lot of effort at reclaiming financial control. But it often doesn't happen without months and months of collection actions, Campbell says. "Some women can keep their heads in the sand for a long time"—and their heads up that Gucci bag, filled with plastic. ■



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ARTHRITIS: it's your business

Arthritis affects every adult, no matter how young, whether or not we know it. And now, here's what arthritis specialists and The Arthritis Society are doing to lift the collective burden of arthritis in Canada.

You've got arthritis in your life.

You may not have it in your body, but chances are you know at least a few people who do. All told, more than 4,000,000 Canadians aged 15 and over have some form of arthritis, and two-thirds of them are women. While the odds of getting osteoarthritis (OA), the most common form of arthritis, rise sharply with age, surprisingly, the majority of people with arthritis have yet to celebrate their 65th birthday. With about 6 million Canadians expected to live with arthritis by 2026, the tally is poised to rise still further.

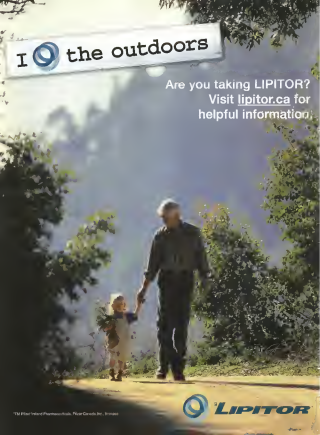
Arthritis conjures images of croaky knees and crooked fingers in many people's minds. In fact, the disease that usually causes such changes – OA – is just one of over 100 types of arthritis. More violent forms, such as rheumatoid arthritis and ankylosing spondylitis (AS), trigger a cascade of joint inflammation


and distraction that, unless promptly and adequately treated, can severely cut into quality of life. "The importance of early diagnosis and treatment cannot be overstated," says John Fleming, President and CEO of The Arthritis Society. "That's one of the key messages we're sending the public: don't wait if you're experiencing pain and stiffness in your joints."

The Arthritis Society is also working to dispel the lingering myth that arthritis is just a part of getting old. "Arthritis can happen at any age, including young children. Even though osteoarthritis is common in older people, there are things Canadians can do to protect their joints," he says. "A proper diet and exercise program can greatly reduce the odds you'll spend your retirement years being limited by osteoarthritis."

On top of the havoc arthritis wreaks on individual lives, the disease takes a

The Arthritis Society



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staggering economic toll on Canadian society at an estimated \$4.4 billion. \$3.5 billion of that amount is the cost related to lost productivity related to long and short term disability.

On a more encouraging note, our knowledge of the mechanisms underlying arthritis and the most effective ways to manage it continues to grow. Thanks to the efforts of arthritis specialists across the country, along with new initiatives spearheaded by The Arthritis Society, today and tomorrow, arthritis patients have a greater chance of leading satisfying and largely pain-free lives.

Here's a look at what's happening on the research, education and patient care fronts.

Disability, drugs and DNA: the research and the reality

Richer or poorer, older or younger, anyone can get OA. But not everyone has equal access to medical care for the condition. Toronto-based rheumatologist Dr. Gillian Hawker is past chair of the Epidemiology and Healthcare Outcomes Review Panel for The Arthritis Society, and recent recipient of the Society's Distinguished Senior Research Investigator award. Disparity in access to care has been a major focus of Dr. Hawker's research, which has uncovered some significant barriers to care. For example, she has found that while the need for joint replacement is more

than three times greater in women than men, fewer women than men have the surgery. The reasons? "Both women and their doctors may incorrectly perceive they need surgery less commonly than men," says Dr. Hawker. "And people who demand the surgery—usually men—are more likely to get it." And people at the lower end of the socio-economic spectrum are more likely to need joint replacement but less likely to be on a waiting list for the procedure.

Dr. John Esdaile, a rheumatologist at the Arthritis Research Centre in Vancouver, has been focusing on hastening the diagnosis of OA. One of the scientists working with Dr. Esdaile, Jolanda Cibere, has demonstrated that X-rays don't pick up OA detected by MRI (magnetic resonance imaging). "Given the high costs of MRI, we're hoping to develop new blood tests and knee-examination techniques that will allow us to

Raising the bar

The spring of 2006 saw the release of evidence-based standards to improve arthritis prevention and care across Canada. Created by the Alliance for the Canadian Arthritis Program (ACAP) and distributed to health ministers across the country, the standards give top priority to the following objectives:

1. Every Canadian must be aware of arthritis.
2. All relevant health professionals must be able to perform a valid, standardized, age-appropriate musculoskeletal screening assessment.
3. Every Canadian with arthritis must have timely and equal access to appropriate medications.



diagnose the condition before joint damage has begun," says Dr. Eskdale.

Just like OA, AS often develops slowly, leaving parents to wait an average of eight years before receiving a diagnosis. Waterloo, Ont. schoolteacher David Atkins is typical in the regard, having waited close to a decade before a rheumatologist finally diagnosed him correctly. "I spent years bouncing from doctor to doctor," recalls the 39-year-old Atkins. "Most of them thought I had fibromyalgia." The diagnosis didn't solve Atkins's problems, however. To control his pain, he had to take anti-inflammatory pills as often as eight times a day. "I tried a few disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs, but nothing really helped and the side effects did me in," he says.

All that changed in 2000, when his rheumatologist put him on a special program to receive biologics. Made from living organisms or their products, biologic medications have proven themselves capable of dramatically improving symptoms in patients with serious conditions such as inflammatory arthritis or cancer. "I had my first biologic treatment on an afternoon in July," says Atkins. "By supper time I felt fantastic." Since then, Atkins has been receiving regular treatments and the cost of the medication is now covered by his benefits plan. "I act on stage, I play golf, and I have no disability except for a reduced range of motion in my neck," he says. Most telling of all: "I feel mentally free. The pills used to keep the disease top-of-mind but I can now put it aside between treatments." His advice to newly diagnosed patients: "Don't spend years of your life feeling miserable. Get on the drugs that will work for you as soon as you can."

A bit of a mystery disease, ankylosing spondylitis (AS) can develop slowly but also wreak great havoc. Over the long run, it can destroy lower-limb joints, lead to a

complete fusion of the spine, and trigger other serious illnesses such as Crohn's disease or inflammation of the eye. Other patients spend years debilitated by chronic pain and disability then go into unexpected remission. Researchers have yet to figure out why some patients improve while others continue to worsen.

Dr. Proton Rahman, an associate professor of rheumatology at Memorial University in St. John's, has been studying the genetic component of psoriatic arthritis for the past ten years. Himself affected by a related rheumatic disease, Dr. Rahman has been able to



SPARCC team - Left to right: Dr. Proton Rahman, Dr. Walter Maksymowych, Dr. Dafna Gladman and Dr. Robert Arner

link a particular gene to a higher risk of psoriatic arthritis. The Arthritis Society recently awarded its first National Research Initiative (NRI) to the Spondyloarthritis Research Consortium of Canada (SPARCC), a cross-Canada project co-led by Dr. Rahman and three other rheumatologists. The SPARCC project will adopt an interactive model of research, in which patients become active participants in the design and execution of the research plan. As part of the initiative, an assessment of spondyloarthritis patients across Canada will "shed light on the regional and cultural variations, juvenile aspects and genetic contributions to the disease," says Dr. Rahman. He says his research will improve our understanding of the genetic basis of the disease and evaluate the benefits of early diagnosis and treatment.

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Weight and movement: a little goes a long way

Research leaves little doubt about it: staying active and maintaining a healthy weight not only helps manage arthritis, but can delay its onset. "Even modest weight losses and small improvements in muscle strength can

prevent or delay the progression of OA of the knee," says Vancouver rheumatologist Dr. John Isidore. Conversely, excess weight and an inactive lifestyle lead to weakened muscles and progression of OA.

Just ask Helen Klassen of Calgary, Alberta, who lives with the double whammy of OA and fibromyalgia. With close to 100 extra pounds on her frame, Klassen, 63, had learned to live with unrelenting pain. "There were times when I couldn't control the tears as I crowded up the stairs," she recalls. Then she discovered swimming. "My grandkids invited me to join them at the community pool. At first I was very self-conscious. I didn't want people to see my fat, ugly body. But then I realized that my grandkids didn't care what I looked like." Besides, "Once I got into the water people could only see my head." "I knew I was onto something, because I felt no pain when moving in the water." Even so, she "just about died" after doing half a lap the first time out. She kept at it, though, and eventually worked her way up to two kilometres per workout. At the same time, Klassen started eating nutritious, unprocessed food—and the pounds began to come off.

"I never set out to lose lots of weight," says Klassen. "I just thought about losing five pounds at a time." A noticeable improvement in her arthritis pain sustained her motivation to continue. Before long, the weight loss added up to a whopping 91 pounds. While Klassen still gets occasional arthritis flares, she says they don't knock her down anymore. "I used to convince myself that living with chronic pain wasn't all that bad," she reflects. "It was that bad. And now I know it doesn't have to be."

To inspire other Canadians to make similar lifestyle choices, The Arthritis Society has created a program called *Lifestyle Makeover Challenge*. People can sign up online (www.arthritis.ca/lifestyle) or by phone (1-800-321-1433) for the four-week program, which encourages participants to make small and manageable changes rather than large and daunting ones. The program can benefit not only people with existing

arthritis, but those interested in preventing it, says John Fleming, President and CEO. Having taken up the challenge himself, Fleming admits to "feeling nervous about losing some weight and becoming more fit and feeling better too."

Specific suggestions include taking stairs instead of elevators whenever possible, walking at lunchtime, using less sugar in coffee and tea, keeping water at hand, using whole grain instead of white bread and eating coldwater fish twice a week. A personal activity tracker helps participants monitor their progress and reinforces the notion that small changes yield large dividends. As Toronto rheumatologist Dr. Arthur Rockman, who chairs The Arthritis Society's Medical Advisory Committee, has pointed out, "losing 10 pounds now can cut the degree of OA years later by as much as 50 per cent, while muscle strengthening will actually control pain."

While joints take kindly to well-paced activity, pushing too hard can be just as harmful as sitting on the couch. "Studies have linked about a quarter of knee OA to adolescent sports injuries," says Dr. Isidore. "To remedy the situation, he and his team plan to launch a training program for soccer coaches. "We need to convey the importance of letting injured players rest appropriately before returning to the game," he says, "and other techniques to reduce injuries in the first place."

An ounce of preparation

Unlike traditional post-surgical rehabilitation, preoperative rehabilitation (prehab) takes place during the wait before joint-replacement surgery. In 2005, The Arthritis Society and other stakeholders designed a program in the London, Ont. area to answer the question: Can prehab services such as strengthening exercises, customized fitness training, stress management, home assessment, and coping strategies improve pre-surgical function in patients scheduled for hip and knee replacements? So far, the answer seems to be yes: on average, patients who underwent prehab were 26% less anxious, 26% less depressed and 28% more able to cope with their illness than other patients. Stakeholders ultimately hope such prehab services could help hospitals discharge patients sooner—and healthier.

Putting a shine on rheumatology

Arthritis puts a considerable strain on the health care system, accounting for over eight million annual visits to doctors in Canada. Depending on the province, as many as one in five people annually visit a doctor—most often a family doctor—for an arthritis-related problem. To see a rheumatologist, patients may wait months. "Canada has about 300 rheumatologists right now, which falls drastically short of the need. The paradigm of early treatment and diagnosis falls flat if the number of required doctors isn't there," observes Fleming.

To deal with the increase in arthritis patients, the number of rheumatologists in Canada would need to grow dramatically by 2036. Unfortunately, the count has been shrinking rather than growing, putting the average age of Canadian rheumatologists over 50. "It's an underserved specialty and recruitment has been a problem for



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WEEK 3 ACTIVITIES	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
WEEK 4 ACTIVITIES	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY

Take note: The key to a successful lifestyle change is setting effective goals in the beginning. The foundation for your goals comes from the S M A R T acronym.

- S** = Specific – "I will walk"
- M** = Measurable – "for 30 minutes/5,000 steps"
- A** = Attainable – "at lunch"
- R** = Rewarding and Relevant – "... 5 days a week"
- T** = Time-oriented – "for the next four weeks" re-evaluate

For more tips, support and great information visit www.arthritis.ca/lifestyle

some time," concedes Dr. Ali Covicina, associate clinical professor of medicine at McMaster University and rheumatologist at Hamilton Health Sciences and St. Joseph's Hospital in Hamilton. Why the nationwide shortage? "It's among the lowest-paid medical specialties, which tends to lower its status," says Dr. Covicina. "And medical students tend to have a fuzzier mental image of rheumatology than of other specialties such as cardiology or pediatrics." The upside of rheumatology? "It's a great lifestyle," Dr. Covicina says. "It's a great specialty."

and sports medicine. Participants shadow rheumatologists in their offices, in fracture clinics, and in the operating room, then get a chance to display their diagnostic acumen in medical rounds and group discussions. Twelve students and sixteen faculty members participated in the Fall 2005 session, and students responded with such enthusiasm that the course now has a waiting list.

Whether or not the course inspires a particular student to pursue rheumatology, it won't be wasted on any participants. As Dr Cerdino points out, 'arthritis and other musculoskeletal disorders account for 20 per cent of visits to family doctors, and the situation is unlikely to change significantly. So family doctors need to know their arthritis.'

This conviction also underlies the efforts of Dr. Lon Albert, a rheumatologist at the University Health Network in Toronto. Having noted that a lot of non-specialists are now managing arthritis and related problems, Dr. Albert, who teaches at the University of Toronto, saw the need for tools that would help medical residents learn core rheumatology knowledge. A grant from The Arthritis Society helped make his vision a reality.

Dr Albert and a group of dedicated teaching colleagues from across the country developed a national core curriculum, which Dr Albert used as the basis for *The Canadian Residents' Rheumatology Handbook*. The book is designed to help trainees learn to diagnose the pathology problems that bring patients to medical care. Dr Albert has initiated distribution of the pocket-handbook to medical residents across Canada. Finally, we would also like to see it used by Canadian doctors.

The Arthritis Society is also doing its part. In addition to funding rheumatology residency programs, "we're supporting selected academic rheumatologists so they can protect some of their time for teaching," says Fleming. "We're hoping this teaching inspires students to pick up the specialty."



points out, "You're not 'on call' as much compared with other specialties such as cardiology, and we generally don't deal with life-threatening conditions." A further bonus: "Because of the chronic nature of arthritis, you see patients regularly and really get to know them over time. I've had patients for 20 years."

To address this problem, Dr. Cividina has developed a month-long musculoskeletal 'boot camp' for medical students. Designed to increase awareness of the specialty, the course also covers orthopedic medicine, rehabilitation,

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QUICK FACTS ABOUT ARTHRITIS

- The term "arthritis" classifies more than 100 diseases and conditions and falls into two categories: degenerative or inflammatory.
- While each form of arthritis is unique in cause and effect, one factor is common to all: early diagnosis and treatment greatly improves the chances of preventing disability.
- Osteoarthritis, the most common form of the disease, affects about 10 to 12 per cent of the adult population. Rheumatoid arthritis affects about one per cent.
- About one out every six Canadians aged 15 or older has some form of arthritis.
- Women comprise two-thirds of people with arthritis.
- People aged 35 to 64 incur 70 per cent of the long-term disability costs associated with arthritis.
- 90 per cent of knee replacements and 80 per cent of hip replacements in Canada result from osteoarthritis.
- Losing 11 pounds can reduce your risk of needing a joint replacement by 25 per cent.

The importance of being early

inflammatory arthritis experts agree: early and aggressive treatment preserves joint function. Bouchra Boumazough's story illustrates the dramatic benefits of appropriate treatment – and the risks of waiting too long. arthritis

When rheumatoid arthritis (RA) entered Bouchra Boumazough's life at age 12, her dream of leading a productive life slunk to the dream of having a pain-free day. By her twenties, Boumazough, now 33, had become so weak she couldn't lift anything heavier than a plastic cup of water. Even brushing her own hair caused such discomfort she chose to cut it short instead. School? Part-time was all the St. Basile-le-Grand, Que. resident could manage.

Boumazough tried all the standard therapies for RA, but nothing stopped the pain, the sleeplessness, the stiffness or the progression of deformity. With her growing reliance on others for physical and emotional support, she began to view herself as a burden on others and a victim.

When Boumazough first heard about the "miracle" biologic drugs developed for treating RA, she hesitated to try them. Worried of opening her heart again, she had been disappointed too often to hold out hope for a new treatment. "I had experienced all the side effects that medications had to offer and none of the benefits," she says. "So I thought, what's the point?" Boumazough



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stalled for two years. By early 2004, however, she had worsened to the point that "it took me 15 minutes to get from the head to the foot of my bed," she recalls. Her rheumatologist suggested biologics. "I was finally desperate enough to give them a try."

Returning home after her first treatment, Bounzourch says she already felt "like a new person." After years of fitful sleep, "I enjoyed my first stretch of uninterrupted sleep that night," she says. To move, to dress, to shower and to go outdoors without having to think about it — she could finally do these "mundane and necessary" things again.

As well as she's done on biologics, Bounzourch says

she paid a large price for delaying treatment. Over the years, her disease has ravaged her hand and elbow joints leaving them frail, deformed and all but useless. Questions like "Can you carry folders?" bring job interviews to an awkward close. "Had I begun treatment sooner, I could have avoided much of this damage," she says.

Bounzourch says the real danger of arthritis is psychological, not physical. Living with inflammatory arthritis "makes it easy to lose hope and become apathetic about seeking treatment, which is a big mistake," she says. With the right treatment, "there's no need to become an victim like I did. That's why I tell others to keep trying." 



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THE INCREDIBLE SHRINKING DAD

An old debate finds a new twist: fathers may not be essential after all

BY LARSEN GREENE • Seven years ago, on the eve of his 12th birthday, Adam Greene, the precariously tall back-son of the HBO series *Boys n the Girls*, decided to set up a camera outside Barker Station and ask passersby what a father meant to them. "The assumed response—"a best friend," "a leader," "no one"—inspired the opening sequence of *Greener's* first feature-length documentary, screened this week at the Toronto International Film Festival. *Stories in the Dark* chronicles the New York-based actor's own bewildering journey to reconnect with his estranged father—an attempt, he says, to overturn the social stigma of being raised without one. More concretely, he says in the film, with a 15-year-old's bravado, "to prove that I don't have to care."

When he was growing up in a family of two, Greene says, people regularly assumed he was "a loner," that without the guidance of his father—a man he hadn't seen since the age of 5—his upbringing had been somehow broken. "I was running out to prove that fatherhood is just biology," he says. "Just blood and empty space." *Stories in the Dark*—so titled because, he figures, that's what his own conception amounted to—he seeks to challenge that theory by consulting a psychiatrist, who suggests Greene is repressing his hurt; a psychic, who warns him of impending heartbreak; and a Catholic priest, who insists his childhood must have been more traumatic than he realizes. (To that, he shrugs: "I had a good life," he says. "My mom was a good father.") In one scene, Greene observes a father-and-son team engaging in stunts bicycled home. He looks on from the sidelines with mild bewilderment and the scientific detachment of an anthropologist scrutinizing the bonding rituals of primates. Still, he's no closer to an understanding of what he's missed. For his grand finale, Greene parachutes himself, unannounced, into his father's life to address, voice and all, why he left. After a series of fraught, often exchanges, he draws the inevitable conclusion that his dad is a loner and a loser. "It wasn't about me," he says. "My parents had their issues." He seems to forgive his father only, then neatly proving his point: that he didn't suffer without this man.



PEER ENLIGHTENED Greene was asked by his mom (top) to find him his father (bottom). When he says he never missed.

Stories in the Dark comes as a moment when the debate over whether children—and boys, in particular—need their fathers has become intensely polarized. On the one hand, there is the recent epidemic of alarming statistics, all of which seem to suggest that the absence of a father at home significantly increases the likelihood that a teenager will show signs, drop out of school, become a parent, engage in criminal activity, and wind up incarcerated. These anti-social behaviours, many experts say, prove the fact that fathers

play a role that is distinct and essential in order for their sons to reach "psychological manhood." In his 2001 book *Father Hunger*, Harvard child psychologist James Henggeler identified a father's role among fatherless children that he defined as, in part, a boy's struggle to transition into manhood

when he has no blueprint to work from.

On the other hand, psychologists have recently set out to challenge the idea that fatherless boys are bound to fail as men as a policy rooted in antiquated and idealized notions of family. Potential gender, they say, is irrelevant. Rather, all that need is at least one parent who is a responsible, loving and steady caregiver. Overwhelmingly, though, members tend to fill that role. In a 1999 issue of the journal *American Psychologist*, Louise Silverstein and Carl Auerbach of Yeshiva University in New York published a study called "Deconstructing the Essential Father," in which they concluded—to considerable surprise in family-values circles—that the available data "do not support the idea that fathers make a unique and central contribution to child development."

Earlier this year, Peggy Deceler, a Cornell University psychology professor, took this position one step further in her book *Raising Boys Without Men*. She asserted that, all things being equal, boys often fare better without a male influence in the home. In the course of her research, Deceler followed a cohort of mostly middle-class boys, ages 5 to 9, from mother-only families, and charted their emotional and behavioural growth compared with boys from conventional mom-and-dad families. "I wanted to find out if sons out-perform through the power vacuum alone," she says. In the end, she decided that not only were they functional, they often out-did their more traditionally reared peers.

"The boys in my study were not Winkies or smart boys," she says. "Hardly they compensated for the lack of a father figure by becoming overly aggressive. They were thoughtful communicators who were caring and sensitive."



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THE ACTOR with his mother: "My voice was a good father" too, but they were just as willing to engage in boyish activities like skateboard and roughhousing. "Also, she says, they were remarkably successful in securing male role models in their extended families and communities. "It seemed clear that their essential boyishness was hard-wired."



BOYS RAISED BY MOTHERS, SAYS ONE STUDY, ARE BETTER OFF THAN TRADITIONALLY RAISED CHILDREN

Fatherlessness is a so influential problem, says Deater. The trouble, she points out, lies in the unfortunate reality that the average single mother has to contend with socio-economic factors—namely poverty, gender discrimination and systemic racism—that often prevent her from providing her child with the kind of support they may need in these factors, says Deater, and not the absence of a male influence at home, that we must fully to determine a child's behaviour and performance. "Parenting is not understood to gender," she says. "The raising of either gender or different, not male or female."

The question is not merely academic. A survey done at various data indicates that, as the traditional nuclear family model continues to erode, a shocking number of children are growing up without at home dad. In North America, more than 10 million households are headed up by single mothers (up from three million in 1970). Some argue that, considered in a larger historical context, fatherhood is particularly an issue to bring writers out of the cultural script altogether. In his 1991 book *Fatherhood in America: Gayfathering the Most Urgent Social Problem*, David Blankenhorn, now considered a pioneer in the "fatherhood movement," reminds readers that, historically, fathers were the ones who learned primary responsibility for their sons' moral and religious education. "Throughout the 19th century," he writes, "child-rearing manuals were generally addressed to fathers, not mothers." But with the physical separation of work and home,

brought on by the Industrial Revolution, the domestic sphere became increasingly "feminized." "In some respects," he writes, "it has been all downhill for fathers ever since."

In response to theories like Deater's, the fatherhood movement has devoted its energies to keeping fathers—and need it go without saying—pushed even further into the margins of society. "Fatherhood itself is under attack," wrote Mark Thompson last month in an article for *New Statesman*, a British-American boy in crisis. "Although some feminists may believe it, you cannot simply wish away patriarchy and a certain type of masculinity."

In the years since his documentary was shot, Adrian Grenier has cultivated a notably less tense relationship with his biological father. "We're just hanging in it and getting to know each other in people and trying to get some shared experience over our belts," he says. "The I think it's important to get to know him as a person? Honestly, I don't. But I want to like a good guy. That's really what it is. He wasn't my father, so now what is he? He's a guy. We don't have a lot in common but I'm still struggling and I still want somebody to look up to."

This separation may be what Haring would classify as classic father hunger. Or it could be something else altogether. In the debate over fatherless boys, one subject less frequently discussed is the effect of being attacked by the lifelong knowledge that a parent—and it does more often tend to be male—decided somewhere along the road that he didn't want the job. The fact of that rejection alone, it would seem, is bound to leave a kid, regardless of circumstances, feeling a little betrayed in the world. ■

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CHILDWITNESS: SOME THINGS ARE MORE IMPORTANT
When the film came, both Grenier could depend on her neighbours. She recently gave birth to a beautiful baby girl, and the cell was so close that police received a report of gunfire delivered on a Pittsburgh-area highway exit, initiated by neighbours who had been driving her to hospital. Grenier is probably less grateful to her husband, who opted to stay home and watch the Pittsburgh Steelers football game.

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SOMETHING HAPPENED

EXCLUSIVE EXCERPT: Adrienne Clarkson's newly published memoirs are as open about her private life as her public duties

It was a surprise in 1999 when Prime Minister Jean Chrétien chose Adrienne Clarkson, former CBC TV host of *Talk Thyry* and the fifth Black and later Ontario's first Black general, to be Canada's 26th governor general. Some thought it even more of a surprise when Clarkson, renowned for her love of the North, and for forging a strong bond with the Canadian Forces, proved to be the most prominent—and in many eyes—successful governor general in a generation. Her memoirs, *Her Memoirs*, are more than a public life recollection. In the excerpt below Clarkson, now 67 and retired from office for a year, speaks for the first time about the personal tragedy she had to endure the glimmering red of her public career, and the solace she found in family.

There were a lot of race young men in university, and all of them had in common the fact that they had in trusting families, were reasonably good looking and wanted to do fascinating things in the world—like join the foreign service, become engineers in developing countries, or study in France. Now, when I look back on it, I realize that a certain psychic disposition must have driven me to feel that if I didn't have children, I would somehow not be fulfilling my destiny. That wasn't odd, given that I was brought up to believe that everything I did was to affirm my individuality and to make sure that I had a role in a world that was not defined by biology. If you are not a genius, and I am certainly not one, it is difficult to escape all the constraints of your time.

I married Stephen Clarkson, whom I met at Trinity College, at the University of Toronto, in the early sixties. He was brilliant, went to Oxford as a Rhodes scholar, and, like me, also wanted the French language to be a part of his life (I do not intend to describe my first marriage, because I have a aversion to a narrative that would of necessity be avoided). We were unable to have children for nearly six years. My life was a whirl of business, sailing against wind, the usual tra-

jectory taking. We felt that this was wonderful because we did want to have children. Two years after we married, I started working in television, on *Talk Thyry*, and was immediately successful at it. Life was fulfilling in one way by the joy I had working and learning and moving far, far from the academic world.

We had promised ourselves that, if we could not conceive by the end of five years, we would adopt a child. We were on our way to doing that through a private adoption, which was much more common in those days and more informal than adopting in today. We had five more months to wait for that baby. Three months before we were there, I discovered I was pregnant.

We arrived with the question of whether we should go ahead and adopt the child as well as have our own. My mother wanted us to do both because, she told, an old Chinese proverb said that when you adopt a child it is the flower pot, and then your own child is the plant that grows within it—the two are inseparable. As it turned out, we did not adopt, and Ryan was born in 1969. I managed to escape her weekly report on pregnancy, birth, child feeding, and so on. It was a rare bit of luck of public and private life, and I'm very happy when we were doing it.

When Ryan was a year old, I became pregnant again. The day I discovered I was pregnant, it was a day of light, leaving little stripes of light, I knew that thing must be wrong. I was about four months pregnant and had already gotten over three months of morning sickness, during which I lost 15 lb. Although we were surprised by the second pregnancy so soon, it was not as apprehensive in any way because the first one had gone so well. Ryan was born with the speed of lightning, so that I had no need of an epidural. Naturally, I thought that second one would go well, until I couldn't stand any longer down, and then the little version of Ryan started. We were staying out in the country with friends, and I worried that



THE CLARKSONS AT HOME: "When Ryan was a year old, I became pregnant again"

I was about to become blind or had a detached retina.

When I returned to the city on the Monday, I realized something was drastically wrong when the doctor looked very grave. He said, "You are having a false pregnancy and your blood pressure is going through the roof. I don't know what's wrong, but this happens sometimes." I asked him if he thought that I would miscarry, but he said he didn't think so. He said, "There are reasons, of course, why some pregnancies aren't carried to term, but I don't think those going to happen to you."

I've always wondered whether he meant I could have had an abortion, even though I was already in my 18th week. In any event, it never occurred to me to ask for one. The

hope I was remembering that when my mother was expecting me was very, very ill, and her back the gynecologist—my great-uncle Arthur, who was the great Hungarian-trained doctor—advised her that it would be worse if I were removed so that she would not become richer or develop ill in her lungs. My parents, being young, both agreed to that, but then my beloved Po-Po intervened and said that that was absolutely not to happen. I was always grateful for that and, if you believe in personal prophetic omens, I probably knew at some level that I could have been done away with by five I had even begun. And that feeling has very much colored my life and my position as a woman. The late studies are some nagging for the right to control their own bodies, which I endorsed enthusiastically.

It seemed to me that every woman should have the choice of what she was going to do when she became pregnant, and nobody, certainly not the state, should tell her what she should do. For after this pregnancy, I realized that my view had focused. I am not a doctor, and still do, but I would never be able to have an abortion but that I do not want to tell other people whether or not they should. I feel this is a matter of conscience and a matter of being able to live with yourself and with the decisions that you have made. During my second pregnancy, I was still working on *Talk Thyry* and taking a day off at a time. The executive producer was extremely sympathetic, like most male

bosses of the time. I think he would have preferred me to have stayed home, as his own wife had with their three children. (She had never worked except early on in their marriage when they were both struggling to survive.) He had qualities, but sympathy for women was not one of them. He was later notorious for his response when one of the women on the show asked for a raise. He looked at her startled and said, "You seem to be well dressed and well taken care of. I'm sure your husband must earn enough money to take care of the two of you, plus what you earn." This was in the days before you could have called somebody before a husband for such things.

"You're going to have twins," they said. I hardly had time to call my parents and husband about this before I went into labour and gave birth to Blaise and Chloe."

I did not quarrel. I simply dealt with the splitting headaches and the hushing in my face with makeup and great concentration. I was afraid to take any painkillers because of the pregnancy and also because I didn't want taking pills of any kind. Finally I was told that I would have to go to the hospital for about a week. The intensive doctor made me feel that I had let everybody down, and I was overcome with the feelings I remember (this was 1977) that I simply couldn't be holding down such a great job and trying to have children as well.

By the time, I was at the end of my fifth month, and I was told that I was losing to month proteins in my urine that I could suffer kidney

failure. I was told strictly that I would remain unbothered until I gave birth, which would probably be prematurely. So I was looking at least at another six weeks, if not eight, in the hospital. Every day, religiously, before the doctor came I took a ketone test with my own dipsticks, and every day, unhappily, I was in a state of denial, still losing protein.

I wasn't depressed when I was in hospital with this complication. It's unusual to me now that I don't think of it as "Maybe I'm going to have kidney failure and actually lose my kidneys." I felt that somewhere things would work out, but I didn't know exactly how. One day, my doctors told me for an X-ray so they could replace what there was so much movement and some vertebrae in. Afterwards they stood at the end of my bed and looked gravely at me. "You're going to have twins," they said.

This was a total surprise to all concerned. They said they had not seen this in an earlier X-ray because our son was lying over the others. I hardly had time to tell my parents and husband about this before I went into labour and gave birth to Blake, who weighed just over three pounds, and Chloe, who weighed less than two. They were rushed over to the Sick Children's Hospital and put in incubators, and I did not get to see them until the next day. I think that Chloe was the smallest of the smallest in the premature ward in those years.

All this drama was kept within the family and all the visitors of Toler. They knew what I had given birth to twins. Even to this day, 30-odd years later, I meet people in the street who say, "We had twins when you did" and I feel that sharp flash of pain because of what later happened to Chloe. Immediately after the twins were born, I ran a high temperature. Not only had I had no pregnancy but I now had, the doctor informed me on an x-rayed way, the damage that killed most women before 1950—puerperal fever. Luckily,

with antibiotics, this was cured, but the source of it was found not by the doctors but by a marvellous young nurse's aide, Miss Palford, who said to me, "I think there's something in there that's causing you not to have the fever and I wouldn't be surprised if it was a bit of pus there." I asked her what she thought we should do about it and she said, "Do you mind if I give you a scratch a big massage?" I said, "Of course not, let's go ahead and see what happens." She massaged my lower abdomen vigorously and, to our behold, a piece of placenta popped out. She did it into a bowl, and when the doctor came for his call about five minutes later, she presented him with it, and he looked, I do have to say to his credit, extremely chagrined. After that, I recovered

"Suddenly the nanny was at the door of my bedroom saying, 'Something's happened to Chloe, you must come.'"



ON THE SET of *Toler* (Therapy's mascot the pain is public)

quite well and was able to go over to Sick Children's Hospital every day and then to return home with Blake and visit Chloe's actual. The children stayed at Sick Children's Hospital until they reached five pounds. In Matt's case, they took about six weeks, without going every day to spend time there and feed her. The caretakers and world in colony.

As Chloe approached five pounds, we were excited at the prospect of her being able to come home. The pediatricians worried us that there was a unique possibility of blindness or of developmental problems. I don't think I thought very much about that and was quite prepared for anything. I was just glad that she was alive.

The day that Chloe came home was wonderful day, and we had two cribs in one room

plus another baby of 22 months in another room. An excellent nanny had come to help. Some days later, Stephen had to go to his meeting in Montreal. I was still feeling quite good, and every afternoon I had a nap. The Saturday, I had done something in the morning—gone for a morning, I believe, of Joan Marston's search of Anne in their new house in Richmond Hill. When I returned home I felt exhausted, so I lay down right away. Suddenly the nanny was at the door of my bedroom saying, "Something's happened to Chloe, you must come." I hurried to the bedroom and picked Chloe up, but she was already dead. I don't know what exactly happened then, but I think the fire department came, and the ambulance, and the next thing I knew I was by myself in

the waiting room of Sick Children's Hospital. A young doctor, who probably was a pediatrician, stood beside me, shaking unconsciously. She was probably younger than Blake is now, and what she had told me was that Chloe was dead. I remember that I felt alone in a room in a hospital. I had a thought, looking at this sweet chubby girl beside me, whose hands were shaking, that it must be horrible for her to sit with some body and tell them their child had died.

Chloe's funeral was at St. Thomas's Church. The rector was Edgar Bell, who had been a chaplain when Stephen and I were undergraduates at Trinity. It was a great pleasure to have him perform that ceremony. Religion and religious beliefs are not only about ceremony and ritu-

al, but in any traumatic event the timeless order that ritual represents can be very comforting. It is the time when we actually feel the reach of the sacred, and there is great comfort in hearing the words that for centuries have helped relieve the pain and misery people.

When the worst thing you think can happen to you happens, you realize that in a way it has intimidated you against everything. Our society never brings you to believe that you could lose a child, yet within my circle of friends at the time, two other women had lost infants, one by drowning before he was 2 and the other very suddenly by stroke at the age of fifteen to a year. All our lives prepare us for grief, for excitement, for bereavement. We're so ill equipped to actually suffer loss.

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NO HEAR THIS: Bobby Cox is only seven games shy of the record career ejections mark.

YOU'RE OUT

Reflections on the art of arguing, by baseball's king of ejections

BY JOHN ENTERTAIN • With 124 ejections, Atlanta Braves manager Bobby Cox has spent nearly an entire season worth of games during his 26 years in the big leagues working the final outings on a tiny locker-room TV in fact, Cox, who managed the Toronto Blue Jays in the mid '90s, is only seven ejections shy of the record set by New York Giants manager John McGraw in 1913. "The last almost always goes first," says Cox, when asked for his trademark move. "It's just instinct. And it's the easiest thing to take off."

Cox, who is 65, can't recall details from the last time he was tossed from a game (July 26 against the Florida Marlins)—never mind the first time as a rookie coach with the Braves in 1976. Still, he's aligned in the art of arguing a call—an act that plays out on ball diamonds everywhere. Argued by a call, the coach usually explodes from the dugout. Arms flailing. Fingers pointing. Spit flying. The ball cap gets flipped off or tumbled sideways to get as close to the umpire's face as possible. But as close as any contact will get you tossed. That's why coaches keep their heads tucked in their jacket pockets or behind their backs. Sometimes the clubhouse is jiving back and

forth. Other times, the umpire stands silent and waits for the coach to run out of things to say—or breathe. "Whatever comes first," Coxches can curse all they want—as long as they don't make "you" in front of it, like "you can't do that," says Keith Garcia, who retired in 1999 after 15 years in a big league umpire. "I won't mind to be abused."

No other sport provides a stage for this form of theatre. In basketball—made famous by the tyrant Bobby Knight, whose char-

'COACHES CAN CURSE ALL THEY WANT—AS LONG AS THEY DON'T INCLUDE "YOU" IN FRONT OF IT'

ismatic antics during college games are legendary—coaches are usually confined by the line painted on the hardwood. In football, the field is too big, and instant replay allows coaches to challenge calls that they think were missed by the officials. The hockey coach referee dynamic won't compare with baseball's

war diaries. "And in baseball there's no clock," says Garcia, now an umpire supervisor for MLB. "So as long as you're on the field, you can have your say."

The performance of the summer came courtesy of Joe Miskulis, the bench boss of the Asheville Tourists. In a game in Charlotte against the Lexington Legends, the Class-A ball manager threw a major league tantrum (and a couple of bench brawls) because of what he considered a botched call at second base. After giving an umpire on the base umpire and getting tossed, Miskulis erupted. He slid (and help flung) himself into second, pulled the base out of the ground and threw it. He snatched the face of the home plate ump, screamed a bit and kicked dirt on his chest. Miskulis then got down on his hands and knees and covered home plate in dirt. He walked to the dugout and tossed a couple of bats onto the field, then staggered with a water bottle and poured its contents on the plate before splashing the bottle into the ground.

Finally, with the headlock playing over the loudspeaker, the visiting coach made the long walk of shame to the exit, a door in the right field fence. And it wasn't over. After his four minutes of fury on the field—downloaded 234,000 times off the Web—he knocked over two water coolers, a chair and a bench player's action in the locker room. He later compared the umpire to Sean Hannity.

It was a rant that would have made Billy Martin, the former New York Yankees and the grand master of arguing, proud. When the Braves' bench boss, who was once suspended for throwing dirt at an umpire, was asked what percentage of his antics was acting and how much was heat of the moment emotion, he replied "90/10."

Cox admits that he's "probably wrong about 90 percent of the time," but says he never lets

out to get the home run scored or his own ball club pumped up. Half the time, he says, he's scolding himself to save a player. "It's better I go," he

says, "than he go." Although a willing participant in the war, Cox finds the whole thing embarrassing and says sports highlight shows on nights that he gets tossed. "I've never lost control," he says. "But it's not something I'm proud of." In another crying, it's the key part of the game. ■



TODAY, IT TAKES MORE THAN POMPOMES
The No. 1-ranked Ohio State University's "Football game against Texas Int'l. Seminary" inspired a post-game double-bus brawl in Columbus, where fans set fire to furniture and damaged property. One student, George Kinnaman, even named a fire department come and go with a car, slightly injuring three people. Kinnaman has a special interest in encouraging evil: He's the author of the book "The Book of Evil" (St. Martin's Press).

ALAN HUTTENBACH



David Rector, General Manager, BC Operations

EPCOR is cleaning up the heavy metals flowing into Howe Sound.

In 2005, the British Columbia government turned to EPCOR to clean contaminated water from the abandoned Britannia Mine, one of the largest sources of heavy-metal water pollution in North America. The copper from two pencils dissolved in an Olympic-sized pool would make it unsuitable for fish," says David Rector, from EPCOR. "At Britannia, more than 450 kilograms of toxic copper metal were poured into Howe Sound every day. That's enough copper to make 70 million pencils a year." In less than a year, EPCOR developed a new water treatment facility that captures and removes heavy metals. The facility is a vital part of the rejuvenation of the Britannia area, located on BC's famed Sea-to-Sky Highway. This is just one more way EPCOR is providing Canadians with power and water in the most responsible and reliable way. See epcor.ca for more.





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NEWSMAKERS

IT'S A PAIN BEING A STAR—SERIOUSLY

"I don't mind having myself put up," says **Heath Ledger** [1], holding out his hand to show a stiff, swollen size on his knuckle that he incurred on the set of *Candy*. "That's when I gave myself a black eye." In this home-and-work roundup, the *Brooklyn Museum* star plays a post-fuckie whose love affair with an art student (fellow Aussie Abbie Cornish) spirals into a messy war of control. Although they used retractable needles while filming, both learned to shoot up at a clinic nearby. "The guy teaching us has been a junkie for 10 years," says Ledger, now in Montreal chasing his *Rob Dylan* biopic, *I'm Not There*. "He pulled out a practice arm with tubes attached to blood beyond reach, so how do you find a vein? The whole time he was just vibrating. We learned to slide the needle up the vein instead of straight in—otherwise we'd have been totally being smashed."

HEY, WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?

Penelope Cruz [2], one of Pedro Almodóvar's *Vivir*, now speaks good, rapid-fire English with a Spanish accent. "But when I first arrived in America, I got 10 per cent of the conversation," she says, and occasionally things got lost in translation. "Like asking for a new job at the hotel where I was at a blow dry. That was seven years ago. I don't make those mistakes anymore."

Cruz and her director talk about their friendship like devoted lovers. In *Volver*, a parent to motherhood, Almodóvar casts her as a housewife in the village model of *Sophia Loren*; the camera dwells on her cleavage as she poses that her breasts strangely become characters in the film. "It's a gay men," he says, "but I was completely besotted by her."

*** STARS IN THE CITY ***

Toronto glittered as dozens of big names dropped in for the 31st Toronto International Film Festival



'THAT'S WHEN I GAVE MYSELF A BLACK EYE' —HEATH LEDGER, WHO PLAYS A POET AND A JUNKIE IN CANDY

A SOLE THAT HITS CLOSE TO HOME

Only after **Gillian Murphy** [3], killed during *The Wind That Shakes the Barley*—in which he plays an Irish Republican Army soldier fighting for independence from the British in the 1920s—did he find out he was his own family's man-on-the-loose. "I'm not my grandfather, who I never met, but I was shot at by British troops," says Murphy, 30, best known as the Sovereign in *James Bond*. "And I had a distant cousin who they shot dead."

The film, which has garnered seven Oscar buzz, was actually shot in Murphy's Irish hometown of Cork, where he moved back into his childhood home for a few months. And while the movie is historical, it's also very much about brotherhood divided by anti-British rebellion. Says Murphy: "You just leave a story with two brothers in a room going to f--- it out well."

YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF NERVE, KID

Canadian **Paul Haggis** wrote *Oscar* history as the first person to script back-to-back best picture winners—*Millions* (winner **Italy** and **Cash**, *Barbie* was chosen when he wrote the screenplay for *The Last Kiss*, starring **Zach Braffert** [4]) and *Rachel Watson* [5]. During the *Oscar* campaign for *Millions* (before *The Last Kiss* was shot—**Braffert** [Gordon Stett] asked Paramount Pictures for permission to rewrite Haggis's script. "I said, 'Sure, let Zach go for it,'" Haggis recalls. "But I got to this line: Every time we saw each other, I said, 'Sure, rewrite now, it's not perfect. How many rewrites do I have now?' No, 'I'm sure you'll do a better job.'") Haggis recently wrote *Crash* (winner), the new *Barbie*—and now *Clash* (winner) war movie, *Flags of Our Fathers* and *Latter Days* from two years ago. But he's one of Hollywood's most vocal anti-war activists—and a *Scream* devotee. "The worst thing about war is," he says, "is that we're a mass of contradictions. I like to embrace those contradictions."

APP: JEFFREY MACKENZIE



**FASTER THAN A SHORT FILM.
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★ ONES TO WATCH ★

With three impressive performances at this year's festival, James McAvoy [1] is the new Jude Law. The Scottish actor is a Prince/Charming type in *Pearl*, a geeky quiz show contestant in *Starter for Ten*, and a fictional physiotherapist of ill-fated Anna in *The Last King of Scotland*. At 27, he has a more eclectic résumé than actors twice his age.

In February, Sandra Hüller won the Silver Bear acting award in Venice for her stunning role in *Annequin*. The film is inspired by

the story of an epileptic German train who believes she's possessed. This is no horror flick—just a taut, expertly acted psychological drama, in which Muller, 28, totally captures the audience.

With comic timing and a touch of *Matthew Broderick* as Ferris Bueller's *Day Off* and *Ryan Reynolds* as Van Wilder, *Douglas Smith* (2), a 21-year-old Toronto actor, plays a lovable high school outcast who runs for the town mayor in *Capitol Hill*.

While all the comics in *Where*

Wagstaff's Wild West Comedy Show had their moments. Sebastian Maniscalco, 31, is that one who leaves the theater rooting for Conner. Considering how hilarious his bits are—especially when the tall, shirt-wearing pretty boy describes his extensive hygiene habits—you'll be surprised to hear that he's the only one of the gang that isn't a few dollars warmer today.

With *Wasted on You* and *Heart on Ice* out of him, **Quinn Gammeter**, 15, is the heart of *Backlash* (Warner Black), a raucous Spanish film. Gammeter started acting on TV when he was 12—but this is his first leading role in a movie. His char-

actor, Jorge, is a private who poses for an assassin's life. Like Menéndez's Gael García Bernal, expert heartthrob Gutierrez is made the American crossover very soon.

Pine Veggies [1] macher U.S. debut in 2004 opposite Adam Sandler in *Spanglish*. And with her latest, *It's a Boy*, the 30-year-old Spanish star proves she can act as take-no-crap diva. Her Scarlet is a better goody-two-shoes who develops an odd but sweet friendship with an eccentric actor—played with delight by Morgan Freeman. Much easier, like the audience, can't help but be anchored by her

★ OVERHEARD ★

"It is a very great honour to make a visit to the minor nation of Carandia,"—commented Sacha Baron Cohen [4], who arrived for the premiere of *Beast*, *Cultural Learnings of America for Meltzer Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan* on a wagon pulled by four women dressed as musketeers.

"There are a few people I'm really close to with mood disorders—one I lost to suicide. I won't ever reveal the main creative source but it is somebody I'd die for." —Chantal Krevanchuk (5), on what helped her cope with the ex-

tenary for her solo performance in *Proty Brakes*, the 10-minute documentary about mental illness that she also wrote.

"I just got word—and I'm a little depressed—that the vibrator I used in the movie was discontinued. It was a Japanese model with a remote control!"—Sook-Yin Lee [6], the star of the sex-ually charged *Shanghai*.

"The film adds context to my work, but what's important is that it doesn't tell you how to look at it. The dialogue is terse."

As an artist I'm interested in starting the discussion, but the most powerful work is when people pick up the dialogue." —Edward Kurgaskey, acclaimed Toronto photographer and subject of *Misadventure of Landscape*, a geometric documentary that focuses on his work in China.

"You like me? You really like me? I love Sally Field. God bless her for talking so much heat for me, for being honest. Don't tell them what we're drinking! What are you doing?" —Catherine O'Hara, who plays an actress with delusions of Oscar grandeur in *For Your Consideration*

Vikasians, particularly women, are being targeted as sex offenders. They have become a perfume bottle in a pair of trousers. An enormous amount of my wealth has been sold on my beauty in the past. But what I haven't done is been processed. I look around, and most of the young women in film react to look the same" —Julie Christie [?], who stars as *Wang-Feng*, curled up headfirst on a leather couch in the Chinal state, bundle two police officers armed with sub-machine guns, G4 pistols and combat gear—guarding a display case containing a fortune in diamond jewellery. ■



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What would Huey do?

New Orleans would be a different place, writes JOSEPH BOYDEN, if the former governor who inspired Sean Penn's new film was around today

film

It's not impossible for me to see director Steven Zaillian's *All the King's Men* and not immediately try to make connections between the movie, a faithful adaptation of Robert Penn Warren's 1946 classic novel, and what has happened in New Orleans, and indeed Louisiana post-Katrina. And that despite the movie being filmed before Katrina knocked New Orleans near loose, a place from which, one year later, it hasn't been able to rise.

I also can't help but wonder (like what if the real man, Huey Long, who inspired the novel and the movie, and whose life both are partially based upon, were alive today and once again the governor of the great state of Louisiana? How would he have handled the mess we find ourselves in now? **WHEED?** What Would Huey Do?

Louisiana once the epitome of a state continually racked by scandal and corruption, a Deep South Ruritan Republic, and much of its reputation stems (both rightly and often unfairly) from Huey Long, governor from 1928 to 1932, and U.S. senator from 1932 to 1935. His political career came to a shocking and bloody halt in 1935 when he was assassinated in the Capitol building in Baton Rouge by the vice-in-law of political enemy who was rumored to be defrauding his wife's family

honour. It seems that we can't do anything in Louisiana—Mardi Gras, hurricanes, political intrigue—without a sense of big drama.

Robert Penn Warren's fictional governor, Willie Stark, like Long, rose from the backwaters of Louisiana politics to become the radical populist and hugely popular kingfish of Louisiana, loved by the "technocrats, Negroes, and crackers," and despised by big business and utility companies. Warren's tale of one man's quick rise from righteous beliefs to the brink of a career wrecked by charges of desperation and corruption—with themes of media-to-in-crit machinations, repetition of history, jealousy and betrayal woven in for good measure—made for big theater, and big movies based on that literature. In fact, Steven Zaillian isn't the first director to bring the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel to the Hollywood screen. It was first adapted in 1949, and picked up three Oscars.

Big movie based on big books call for big actors, and *All the King's Men* is no exception. Sean Penn, Jude Law, Matt Winston, Mark Ruffalo, James Gandolfini, Patricia Clarkson and Anthony Hopkins are all actors with serious credentials.

I must say this: Penn is magnificent in his role as governor Willie Stark, finding his voice as a leader of the common man in the first half hour, then rising and raging, capitol and

bullying and drinking and whoring for the next 100 or so minutes. Penn becomes Willie Stark with his wild hair and rural Louisiana accent, even capturing the highbly of a southern politician. I would have bet his gut was a prosthetic if I hadn't seen Penn occasionally wandering on Magazine Street in New Orleans during the filming two years ago.

Jude Law plays opposite Penn in the newspaper writer and son of the deceased Southern aristocrat, Jack Burden, eventually becoming confident to find dirt digger for the governor. Just as in the novel, Burden is the tale's narrator, the man made responsible for weaving almost all the major players in the movie to Stark's table, and it's the clash of these characters, the slow poisoning of one's ideals, that leads to the movie's tragic end. All of the actors in this movie do what they do best. Winston portrays the delusional innocence of Burden's ungrateful sweetheart, Anne Stanton. Mark Ruffalo darts like broods as her troubled brother, Adam, clinging desperately



to his grand past that is crumbling all around him. Patricia Clarkson plays Stark's manipulative press attaché, Sadie Burke. James Gandolfini takes the role of Stark's formerly loose-bosomed governor, Tim Duffy. And last but not least, Sir Anthony Hopkins plays Judge Monaghan Smith, a man seemingly beyond reproach but with a dark secret to hide.

And so, with all that, why does my gut tell me this movie is bound to fail, or at the very least not nearly live up to its expectations? In the literary world, solid historical epics are usually a safe bet (as far as anything is anymore), but in Hollywood, the proposition is far more dicey. It's tough to sell historical movie, especially a dark and complex and tragic one, to a public that doesn't necessarily want to know its history and who are smitten with the here-and-now, and the eruption of light fire. And *All the King's Men* is anything but escapist. It's quite the opposite. The thick twin of the plot and the complexity of the characters forest the viewer to work and work hard.

More than that, director Zaillian's adapta-



THE FESTIVAL'S bright lights were focused on the star-studded cast of *All the King's Men*

tion [the wine the screenplay is well] of a book so grand to accept it is a monstrous undertaking. How do you remain loyal to the book's intricate plot, themes, characters and brilliance in two hours? Not impossible, but slight. Ultimately, the film, despite heroic efforts by cast and director/screenwriter, ends up feeling too compressed.

What turns me out is that I slowly got for this movie to be a blockbuster, in part because I'm fascinated by Huey Long, and



in turn, Willie Stark. Not more importantly, God knows Louisiana needs some attention desperately right now. Hence my initial wondering: WTF? Or, so to more grammatically correct, WHHHD? What would Huey have done if he were somehow magically transported to his former role as governor of Louisiana, say just before Katrina? He'd be kicking some serious ass, that's what.

If Huey "Every Man A King, No Man Wants A Crown" Long had been in the governor's mansion last year, he'd certainly have declared a state of emergency as soon as that bad storm appeared on the horizon. Long

catastrophe with such calm and equanimity that he'd have made George W. wimp in major and decisive. Back in 1912, President FDR didn't label Huey Long one of the two most dangerous men in the country (Douglas MacArthur was the other) for no reason. And this was when they were political allies!

What played out last year, as New Orleans and its people sunk and remained underwater for days, was a lot of misery channeled among politicians. The sentiment that "there will be plenty of time to paint the finger of blame later" became a catchphrase as peo-

If Huey Long had been in charge of Louisiana when Katrina hit, he'd have kicked serious ass



STAR POWER: Lee, Winslet and Bullock add even more Hollywood clout



never mind bohemian realities like some legislators trying to prevent him from obtaining his goals. He would have also crowded and crowded every state government without 1,000 notes to send everything they had to help out. And they would have, despite their own inaction.

But most importantly, as soon as the hurricane passed, he would have gotten on Larry King Live, The O'Reilly Factor, Oprah and the rest, making against the federal government's inaction and big business's collusion in the

federal government and big business sent to crush the common man, and he probably would have convinced a lot of people, too.

Whether or not he truly believed his own ranting wouldn't have made a dent in all of those voters, he knew that the smeared load enough, the federal government would have acted immediately. Can you imagine how Michael "Black of a Job" Brown would have withered under the fiery reproach of Huey Long? Long, like George W. Bush, was not afraid of the means-to-an-end approach,

even if those means translated to some serious breaches and some serious turmoil. But whereas Bush's focus, his "evil," seems to closely side with big business America, Long's "and" was to better the situation for the "rednecks, Negroes, and crackers," especially the ones who lost everything, including, for many, their families. And then Huey Long, victorious, would have done what his assassin(s) in 1935 prevented: He would have made his run for the White House (as he'd been planning) and very well might have accomplished it.

Would that? Absolutely Long was no saint. But he was a scrappier, and never backed down from a David vs. Goliath fight. Slaying the giant was his specialty. He possessed what so few of today's politicians possess, eight to ten major and righteous convictions, with just the right amount of unshakable in his

blood to make things actually happen. We all know Sean Penn is a scrappier. Just like the pupa that he's transformed over the years. We all also saw that while the vast majority of us sat in stunned silence as events after Katrina unfolded, Penn took it upon himself to get his butt down to New Orleans and do what he could. WHHHD, indeed.

The sad irony of *All The King's Men* is that the people for whom Huey Long, or rather, Willie Stark, would fight are most certainly the ones who won't come out in any numbers to see it. And today it seems that one of the few powers left to the people is in analyzing a blockbuster happen. I hope I'm wrong. In an age where so many seem afraid to stand up and make statements that begin to question our personal relationship to the political, and to the fact that history does indeed repeat itself, this film is a triumph. **B**

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TIFF STARS included (left to right) Brad Pitt, Adrien Brody, Samuel L. Jackson with model/contestant Trinka (in party), Christina Ricci

They're all such poseurs, except me

Everyone at the Toronto film festival knows there's always a better party somewhere else

BY REBECCA SIEGEL • You know the Toronto International Film Festival as when the Internet king of celebrity gossip Perez Hilton comes to town for some fun. On his website, www.perezilton.com, which profiles more than a million hits a day, he has been posting sightings of celebrities who have arrived in Toronto for the five annual festival, as well as photos of himself with the stars. (Christian Bale, he boasts, refused only to lean on the red carpet, telling him she made his sex every day.) That is Hilton's line just covering the festival and even likely won't be his last. "When asked if a party of the had seen any movies, or would be seeing any, he looked at his cell phone and he said: 'I've seen through the screen.' 'Yes, no,' he says. 'But it's been so much fun.' Like most TIFF paragon, he's been hitting five events a night during the 10-day festival.

Canada's New York Times columnist Trinka, 33, of November, Oct. 1, was attending her first film festival party with the other model friends. The event was the huge Hotel Margaux launch. "Everyone here is a poseur," she moaned in one breath. "No one here is real!" In the next breath, she announced how all "the girls" wanted to move on to the next party. One learns quickly how the circus works. You go from one event to the next. Your cellphone goes off constantly with text messages and calls from people asking "Where are you now?" meaning "What are I missing?"

At the festival's opening-night party were Lance Bass ("N Sync) with boyfriend and *Survivor* star Kevin Connolly, along with a crowd of other everything on their hairbrushes and back, and appetizing champagne. That same night, there was an after-party for *The Pervert's Guide to Cinema* at the newly renovated Gardiner Museum at which Amanda Eigenes's (soon *Elvis Hairspray*) showed up. At the Chanel party for the movie *Mr. & Mrs. Smith*, back to director, Pedro Almodóvar, and star, Penelope Cruz, attended, alongside fishermen, publishers and industry insiders. At Rob Marshall, for a party celebrating the very creative director Christopher Nolan, Dustin Hoffman, Joshua Jackson, Christine Ebersole and Sharon Stone were on hand. Samuel L. Jackson showed up for *Crash*, M. Night Shyamalan, and Will Ferrell for the *Harvey Keitel* party for the movie *Stranger Than Paradise*. *Crash* star and *Harvey Keitel* manager Adrien Brody made an appearance at the rooftop party at the Harvey Keitel house.

Brad Pitt was one of the most talked-about women, the One X One girl, hosted by Matt Damon. One of the most surprising highlights of the festival was the Queen's Lounge based at the Phoenix Concert Theatre, where Parker Posey and Jennifer Coolidge attended the *Shrek* after-party along with Canadian star Soozie Yeh Lee (Lance Bass and Leanne Kish) dragged back Coors Light.)

While most big parties featured a red carpet, many celebrities showed up for their photo ops and then took off for more intimate venues, like back-to-back Lobbys, which hosted Adrien Grier, Heath Ledger, Kevin Connolly and Tim Robbins, sometimes into the wee hours of the morning. "We're on big time," said Lobbys owner Jeff Mandell, who was also attending Eric Burdon (son of Michael Elton) around town. "They know they can come here and not be bothered" (thanks to a back entrance into a private dining area, where no one can see in—but those inside can see out). Then Brad Pitt exchanged numbers with Maude White, in case he wanted to. Mandell and he was impressed by Heath Ledger. "He was really down to earth."

At the Premier Film and Music Lounge, Christian Bale, Penelope Cruz, Zach Braffert, Rachel Baker, Disney Glover and Samuel L. Jackson were only a few of the Big Names in attendance. And over at Club V, Vince Vaughn, surrounded by five girls on either side, perked and the early morning hours. The festival continued on into Tuesday night at the swank hotel and Hollywood Foreign Press Association party, with expected guests including Hayden Christensen, Emilio Estevez, Denzel Washington, Robin Wright, Penn, Sarah Polley, Gemma Jones, Christian Slater and Rachel Watson.

By the end of the festival, most partygoers are on autopilot. "So nice to see you," gushed Lance Bass, sticking out his hand for a shake, before I even introduced myself. "Which line? After so many last nights, who can even remember their own name?"

WE'RE STALKING... JESSICA SIMPSON
She's beautiful, 26, but she says she's frightened away. Simpson told talk show hostess Ellen DeGeneres (who also never seems with her) "I've had to be in love with. I have people away I'm a lot to take on." Apart from former husband Nick Lachey, one was most certainly agree to her personal publicist, Rob Stuter, who alleged last week that Simpson had fired him. Simpson denied that, saying, "We remain good friends."



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ON THE WEB: The screenings. The directors. The celebrities. Our film critic brings his insider knowledge to our festival weblog www.essexm.co.uk/festivalblog.aspx



THE KING OF four CBS procedurals shows, *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*, ended with hints of an affair between Gilmore and Sara

The death of the J.R. cliffhanger

As seen in this week's reruns, season-enders have given up the bang for the whimper

BY JAMIE A. WEISMAN • If you watch CBS this week, you'll be seeing a lot of episodes that don't quite end. The network is showing reruns of all its season finales that ended in cliffhangers—unsolved endings that are supposed to keep viewers frustrated and the fall. But today's cliffhangers are shaping up differently from the showings of *J.R.* on *Dallas*, or the transformation of Captain Picard into a member of the Borg on *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. Look at the way many shows ended last season, and you'll see that they broke off without anything violent or suspenseful, and the only things audiences loved were the characters' emotional lives. Call it the reality (only) cliffhanger.

Traditionally, when a show ended a season as a cliffhanger, it put the characters in a sticky situation—usually the threat of death or destruction—making us wonder if they'd get out. The point was to suggest that things might never be the same; thus, viewers would come in for next season's premiere and things would be the same after all.

This past season, though, saw the most violent and tense story shows go out without anything suspenseful. Over on *HBO*, *The Sopranos* had closed previous seasons with big, violent plot twists. But in its most recent season, it gave us the big murder scene in the season-end episode, and closed out with a mostly non-violent story: emotion. Showrunner David Chase presented the personal problems of each character, and expected us to come back later in the year to see if they'd get over those problems. The show *NCIS* did the same, played by Mark Harmon, go through an explosion and a coma, but he recovered before the episode was over, and the end of the season merely suggested that he might decide to re-

turn. It means that as this era of lead, fast television shows, the trend's moved surprisingly low key season finales.

The king of four CBS procedurals shows, *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*, ended by re-phantomizing the self-doubts of the hero, Grass (William Bantvick), and hinting that he might, perhaps, be having an affair with a co-worker. *Sex (Justa) Fly: Like The Boyz* and *WGS*, *CSI* moved its most violent moments to an earlier point: a character got shot at the beginning of the season finale, but he was all right by the end of the episode.

Nancy Shulman, one of the executive producers of *CSI*, says that showing a character wouldn't have been an effective season ending simply because everyone has seen that too often. "The whole notion of one of the regulars getting shot, and his life is on the line, has become so familiar as a season ender that it's boring. I remember watching a bunch of season finales of a bunch of different shows, and the premieres started looking the same. 'Who's going to die? Who will die?' Instead, he and the other executive producer, Carol Mendelsohn, focused their first-ever cliffhanger on the characters' emotional and relationship problems—things that aren't related to the violent plot lines.

Part of the point here is to acknowledge the increasing sophistication of viewers, and

their fastidious TV forebears. Audiences can be turned off when they are treated with the possibility of death or violence, so know that the lead character won't die. "The death of a character is one of those very controversial things that has sort of become a cliché," Shulman says. "There are other ways to do things, that don't require you to commit some act of violence." So the emphasis has shifted toward the things that actually might happen: the hero won't die, but he might have an affair or feel bad about himself.

The other point of adopting this strategy is that it seems to work. *CSI* fans reacted to the season-ending track of romance as if it were a huge, shocking plot twist. Shulman proudly points to the intensity of fan reactions to the hints of an affair between Grass and Sara, saying, "It's more that so many people are so invested in the characters that it generates that kind of response." It's a device that is particularly effective on shows like *CSI*, which aren't known for character development. Fans were surprised, he says, "For a show like ours, that's so procedural, to do what I think is a very purified character moment after six seasons."

Not that the world be shocked cliffhanger anyone else. At least three shows ended last season with someone getting shot. But they were *J.R.*, *Howe* and *Grey's Anatomy*, all popular shows. As the violent cliffhanger loses season shows and reruns, it's being wheeled into the TV emergency ward. ■



PARIS HILTON... ACCORDING TO TV

Paris Hilton was arrested for DUI. She was taken away in handcuffs—and not the pink fuzzy ones she's used to. She was given one phone call. She called room service—"Mag Leno." A *Real Housewives* in trouble because he vandalized 500 copies of Paris Hilton's CD to make it look like she was topless on the cover. This man says the hardest part about making Paris look topless is drawing in this pants. —Conan O'Brien

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NIA FARROW (left) played Allison Mackenzie, daughter of Constance Mackenzie Carson (Dorothy Nelson, right), on TV's *Peyton Place*

The original desperate housewife

This month marks the 50th anniversary of Grace Metalious's blockbuster *Peyton Place*

BY ANNE HUNTER • *Peyton Place*, the once-sensational blockbuster that shaped the fledgling imagination of a generation, turns 50 this month. That its now-shocking scenes appear tame, even quaint, today is testament to the novel's pervasive influence on contemporary pop culture. *Peyton Place*: Madras Place. Desperate Housewives. All are evocative versions of Grace Metalious's story of a tiny New England town, a place claustrophobic in its gentility, where everybody has dirty secrets and *insidious* things long to go.

The plot, structured around the coming of age of two girls from the elite residents of the provincial town, was richly varied: account of Metalious's own postcard-perfect town, Glenishton, N.H., where she lived with her husband and children. In prose by turns florid, literary and pristine, she exposed dark faces of life—crime, rape, abortion, suicide and adultery. Her female characters longed for careers and men. Her heroes spoke the truth and stood by their actions in its recognition of the status quo. *Peyton Place* was an extended contraband of marriage, a scandalous book that sold to the duplicitous and afloat in Emerson's America. While Joyce Kilmer was busy reading up poetic enemies to the American way of life, Metalious exposed the real setting—the remote, serene, class-infused and live-at-its-own pace a civil democracy.

Of course, *Peyton Place* was not fairly the first to broadcast social problems. It was read for the sex—the graphic, titillating descriptions of couplings via car, window and rear-plumberry. The first in a now-multiple book, *Peyton Place* is filled with involving and lasting shock: incest, rape and “hard seductions.” John Waters, the *Brainiac*

movie director, has said he remembers reading the book “the V of her crotch” and thinking, “how filthy and great.” The fact that a woman authored such unabashed young New England housewife erotica—inspired the book’s positive appeal. Metalious was criticized for writing about sex like a man, which is to say the women who actually enjoyed it.

The book dismissed the novel as vulgar, taking to see that it coincided with the themes of great American fiction, the emotion imposed by repressive communities, the need to escape corruption, and a different expression of the fundamental goodness of man. One reviewer called it “literary sewage,” a charge no one would dare level at John Updike’s later chiding of suburban morality. Putting tabloid and literary traditions in the new paperback format, *Peyton Place* forged the social acceptance of the gaily-plausible novel. As Metalious put it, “If I’m a busy writer, then a lot of people have busy lives.”

Peyton Place’s unrepented sales—more than 12 million copies all told—were driven by word of mouth. It had been before the cover was coined. The author—plump, friendly, with a husband for flannel shirts and jeans—was the original desperate housewife, a slowly bawled over who drank, had affairs, and locked her children outside so she could find the quiet to write. A decade before *The Firm*

was Myraque was credited with exposing the frustrated housewife, Metalious cooked the Jane Clutter model and became a star. In today’s marketplace, where even serial is sacrosanct, she’d be a publican’s nightmare.

The novel spawned an industry—a sex-movie, a sequel, a movie of the novel, the first genre time serial, and a daytime serial that would provide the template for the TV soap opera. Its economic viability transformed a larger cultural shift toward shock, defiance and liberation with youth evident in the success of *Playboy* and *Rolling Stone*. A classic, balancing conservatism and conservatism, *Peyton Place* captured the percolating social desire of a decade that bridged a social revolution—accelerated during the Second World War and realized in the agitated 1960s.

In confronting the vast marketplace for gonorrhea, the novel also catered to the ad adoration. During its personal serial, it was the marriage of time, money, celebrity and scandalous and salacious that seem to be added to that pile, ironically, is a movie depicting Metalious’s own emotional life, among the most photogenic scenes of her life. Success brought Metalious’s name. Shunned by neighbors, divorced twice, she died in debt, her fortune squandered, her liver shot. No one will be shocked by the dirty details of her personal life. Nor by the fact they’ve upstaged the reading of her work. That *Peyton Place*’s first legacy is



STOP PRESS

The *Bureau* is one of the most famous paintings in the world, and the station census is one of four letters “C” in the word. In the *Bureau*, Sept. 2. “A correction concerning the spelling of *census*, in a report about *March*’s painting, *The Bureau*, was, it seems odd, overlooked. The painting is on cardboard.”—A subsequent correction in the *Bureau*.

CANASSING CORRECTIONS

The *Bureau* is one of the most famous paintings in the world, and the station census is one of four letters “C” in the word. In the *Bureau*, Sept. 2. “A correction concerning the spelling of *census*, in a report about *March*’s painting, *The Bureau*, was, it seems odd, overlooked. The painting is on cardboard.”—A subsequent correction in the *Bureau*.

ARTIST/ARTIST/ARTIST



MET SAID she was forced to make wax death masks from the severed heads of guillotine victims, like her old friend Marie Antoinette

A 3-D People magazine, done in wax

Celebrity, high fashion, notorious criminals—Madame Tussaud’s wax is the paperazzo

BY BRIAN RYMER • Historians tend to look for the birth of modernity in some private places, in world-shaking wars or revolutions, or in changing economic and technological advances. That few things fit as modern in most of us as our earliest obsession with celebrity. And in that regard, 32 very hard years on the road with a traveling show, and to end up with an amazing success at a time when women simply didn’t found business empires.

Besides, whether royal institute or not, Tussaud—a genuine artist with a keen eye for detail, especially in dress—was certainly present during some of the most tumultuous years in Western history. She undoubtedly attended the Grand Concert, that possible invasion of the ancient ruins during which the royal family dined outdoors under the end of a crash of workpiece (the famous and famous). Tussaud’s museum is full of costume detail gleaned from such explicit tours, a professional interest derived from her apprenticeship in the waxworks run by Philippe Curtius, her husband’s grandfather. She learned to avoid and later was hands, and how to artfully insert glass eyes, aesthetic beauty born brought from their own north palace, and hair. (The latter was the most tedious of all their museum’s

royal palace, skills to mention Tussaud. In an interview, Tussaud explains that the myth, which helped Tussaud “sell” her gallery, relies to a British audience, because Tussaud’s real achievement, “think of it,” she explains, “to have arrived in England, with a child in tow, not speaking the language, putting in 32 very hard years on the road with a traveling show, and to end up with an amazing success at a time when women simply didn’t found business empires.”

Besides, whether royal institute or not, Tussaud—a genuine artist with a keen eye for detail, especially in dress—was certainly present during some of the most tumultuous years in Western history. She undoubtedly attended the Grand Concert, that possible invasion of the ancient ruins during which the royal family dined outdoors under the end of a crash of workpiece (the famous and famous). Tussaud’s museum is full of costume detail gleaned from such explicit tours, a professional interest derived from her apprenticeship in the waxworks run by Philippe Curtius, her husband’s grandfather. She learned to avoid and later was hands, and how to artfully insert glass eyes, aesthetic beauty born brought from their own north palace, and hair. (The latter was the most tedious of all their museum’s

a greatly wanted wax head turned by hand, the process took almost two weeks.)

And Curtius’s shop was in fact a key player in one of the opening scenes of the revolution. After word that the king had fled two popular mutinies, a crowd converged on Curtius to beg from him his wax head of the king to bear alive in their demonstration. Although the two statues were destroyed in a riot with *royal* troops, Tussaud never forgot the power of signs and symbols to stir a crowd. Arriving in England with her royal’s treasury rolls in debt, during the short-lived Peace of Amiens, Tussaud recovered her first money by teaching some of the vicissitudes of British royalty. Particularly helpful was the contemporary war between the Prince and Princess of Wales, which exhibited as much blood as the Charles Darnleyville of marriage. (When a servant tried to kill Prince George, by then king, that Napoleon had died by night.) “Then, your greatest enemy is death,” the delighted monarch blurted out, “By God, make!” After Princess Caroline’s death in 1817, Tussaud’s wax model was visited by thousands.

Tussaud, herding others, understood basic human nature. “She played to our utmost in celebrity and in pain, our need to get close to the famous. And in that regard, was in better than the real thing—like a statue with those dead eyes that don’t look back, that don’t judge you judging them.” No wonder the kismet to go into Tussaud’s is now almost two centuries old, with no end in sight. ■



NOW ON DISPLAY: A TWO-HEADED JACQUELINE

The largest ever display of two-headed waxworks recently saw the attempted meeting of two two-headed white rat snakes (whose size would get deterred). The World Aquatics in St. Louis organized the gathering at its net work “We” along with 10 visiting snakes and two turtles. No word on whether “We” hit it with “Golden Girls,” or whether they made peace with “Double Trouble,” a two-headed woman dressed in a red suit.

MACLEAN’S SEPT. 20, 1998

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help



“I THOUGHT my vision resuscitated on impressive note and a flashy concept,” says TV host Chris Bala. “So I paid the price.”

Why men without cars are sexy

A TV host explains how urbanites' lives would improve if they gave up their keys

BY JULIA KICKORIAN • St. Louis TV host Chris

Bala admits that part of the appeal of losing a brand-new Toyota Sequoia was for a prize. He never saw his car down to crash the numbers on what the car cost to run, but every time gas prices that up, he felt stung. “I thought my status necessitated an impressive ride and a flashy image. So I paid the price,” he writes in a new book that reflects his complete abandonment on the topic of car ownership, specifically, what a waste of cash it is. *How to Live Well Without Owning a Car*, Bala’s likely to convert city dwellers to a car-free life, isn’t too much an Al Gore-style environmental message as it is a how-to guide for car-free romance. If you don’t have a car, enough to the office as it is, more clever, he says.

He lays out the hidden costs of owning a car as the first chapter. If you’re unclear about the exact amount being “sucked out of your wallet,” Bala recommends using the “Five Car to Own” car calculator at www.fivetocar.com (which requires U.S. zip code). You select your year, make and model, and the website tells you how much it will cost to own that vehicle over a five-year period. “It’s usually double the purchase price,” writes Bala, citing the example that (all prices in \$64,177 over five years).

Bala’s original plan was to tell his Sequoia and purchase something smaller but still “sexy and impressive.” He took his time searching the classifieds. Then one day his online ad finally changed in a single moment. It’s hard to know what he thought the increase was a mistake but then he looked closer. “With no car lease payments, no oil changes, no parking fees, no car washes or gas pedals to fill, he’d saved \$106.” “The windfall got me think-

ing. I estimated that since college I’d blown at least \$750,000 on cars. I’d had invested that money and earned a return of eight percent. I would have \$106,000 in the bank.”

Bala makes exceptions for families with children, traveling sales representatives, construction workers and people with special medical needs, but otherwise claims that tens of millions of people can live better without a car. Eco is the biggest obstacle, he says.

“The race industry has done a fabulous job of convincing Americans that their status and self-worth are tied to their cars,” Bala points to comedian New York Is my job, per winner Gerry McGinley, who in July 10, 2007, suddenly got so many worrying about status and what other people thought when he won \$95 million. McGinley told NBC that he doesn’t own a car and doesn’t plan to buy one. There are plenty of other testimonials.

“We’re saving roughly \$2,000 a year by not having a car,” says Leonard Leggett of Farmington, N.C. “That money goes toward paying down my mortgage interest. Once the house is paid, we’ll have an additional \$15,000 per year in disposable income.” For those who worry people will think they’re “broke” if they don’t own one, Bala suggests preparing an explanation such as, “I have to park on the street. My car was getting damaged and dented. I finally said the best with it.”

Bala, who is single, claims his love life hasn’t suffered any and, hence, once, that car-free living means success from the opposite sex. “You’ll begin to notice potential partners trying to figure you out,” he writes. On the same topic, friend journalist Richard Bayser wrote recently in the *Los Angeles Times* that while he’s a “Webby”-nominated dating appologist of a middle-aged man, “he has no plans to drive.” “Here’s one,” he always enjoyed being driven by women, so why when they’re wearing shorts, as I can observe their thighs and see their calves?”

To tackle such problems in romance, property and disguise (driving without a vehicle, Bala suggests online research into what can be delivered to your door. Most cities in Canada have companies that deliver groceries, pet food, prescription drugs, DVDs, and offer pickup and drop-off dry cleaning. For special occasions such as hauling heavy loads, www.internetwork.com sells bike trailers large enough to tow a small trailer.

When accepting rides from car-wreck friends, make sure each one is “win-win for you and the driver,” writes Bala. “No one carrying home power, by going up your car and the air conditioning by surrounding people drive you everywhere,” says a car-free advocate in the book. Chap in his car, Bala admits. Offer to pay for parking or car wash. Wash the windows when you stop for gas. “Just don’t go overboard. You don’t want anyone to feel obligated to drive you.” ■



MOST IMPROVED: DAVID GEFEN

It’s finally dawned on Linda Mendell’s former husband that he shouldn’t have signed a pre-nuptial agreement limiting what he could ask for if their marriage broke down. Geff has asked a court to review the pre-nup, saying he didn’t realize Judy Geffen’s daughter was a violent alcoholic when he married her. At the wedding, there’d been no sign of trouble, certainly not the presence of Michael Jackson as Geff’s guest.

ART: MICHELLE GLOVE GASTLEY

Katie Couric, and the rules of robot love



The mark of a quality columnist is his ability to introduce two seemingly unrelated subjects and, using logical reasoning, to then, together as a number so profound and satisfying that readers conclude from the combination of creativity and intelligence.

Hope you know someone like that? Sounds good.

The mark of this columnist is my ability to introduce two seemingly unrelated subjects and then simply guess that each has nothing to do with the other while simultaneously proving incorrect everything that the data tells you in before you get to the end of the column and notice. All of which brings me to my discussion of Katie Couric's rise to the esteemed position of network news anchor and also her sex with robots.

Couric's debut on the CBS Evening News followed a hurricane of hopes and hypothesis that totally overestimated the week's mine grave and conceptual world events, such as Katie joining *The View*. (I'm not saying Katie refused to shut up the whole time but I could still hear her sipping two diamonds over.) Meanwhile, millions of Americans—no less fans of whom were not TV critics or bloggers—raved in at Katie, who for years made a teleprompter her morning, took the audience's eye of making a teleprompter just every evening—and in a completely different chair. Oh, they will build statues of tribute to your womanly ass, madame?

Katie took us through all the hard news of the day, including a photograph of Tom Cruise's belly (heaven) from describing the latest in "gracious." And she concluded her first broadcast by asking for a little help from viewers. Seems Katie is in the market for a reasonable CBS sign-off. We Edward Marrow's "Good night and good luck" and

Walter Cronkite's "And that's the way it is..." and Dan Rather's "Good! I need to go home all the credits and because I forgot to wear pants!" She even invited suggestions through the CBS website. (My submission: "That's the day's news. Just P.T.T., I totally did it alone." Pinger crassly.)

What does taking a saying say about Katie? Marrow's sign-off became legend for conveying a sense of celebrity and moral leadership in an unclear time. Cronkite's "has reflected the reality that his wife for years perceived as the definitive word on the day's events. And Rather's real sign-off—

Sell time, though. There are apparently bundles yet to overcome in design and engineering and the reasons of post credit ratings. And governments will need to unslide funds for a billion of the blow-up dot industry. But the future of sex is almost here—a future in which sweet-talked seduction is obsolete and relations can be yours as the push of a button (unless your robot runs on Windows, in which case sex can be yours at the repeated pushing of the start button for, like, 10 minutes until you get stuck and go back to quaint old online porn).

In his science fiction stories about the rise



Instead of a sign-off, maybe CBS should sell the airtime. "That's the news. I'm thinking Arby's."

"Coverage"—reminded us of the high regard in which Arby's is held by the network's editors back on his home planet.

These lines and something about each must about his day after if Couric has nothing to say, maybe she should say nothing. CBS might as well sell the airtime—"That's the news. Get two more beef sandwiches for only \$12 at Arby's. Good night." The words the choices will remain about as much.

Anyway, about that whole getting busy with Mr. Robot thing I mentioned earlier and am now engaging in to a way that doesn't at all seem awkward or forced. Thanks to hard-working scientists who must be unpleasant to look at and very, very desperate, men and women could be having sex with a robot with in five years (just if you catch Al Gore today and on the road).

You have to love the human race. We've made 4,529 movies about how robots will one day start thinking for themselves, take over the world and communicate to men spaces—and yet we continue to build smarter and more advanced machines. And now we're going to give them bodies! (Seriously, Kim Jong Il will need to get cracking if he wants to annihilate humanity before the HoloBox joins him up to it.)

if machines, like, Arby's created the Three Laws of Robotics, which were pretty interesting and dispositive (nearly all) on issues related to the safety and the doing thereof. As a public service, I offer the Three Laws of Mr. Robot's Sex.

1. Humans should not remain that life-threatening advances in robo-technology are inevitably accompanied by glitches and malfunctions, and these few ought to accept with our complexity or invent the occasional crash fix.

2. Humans should probably prohibit their robo-lover from assuming the top position of the manufacturer's specifications indicate a gross margin excess of two metric tonnes.

3. Humans should take the time to teach their robots about the mysterious ways of mankind—such as how to end the mating ritual, the partner with the dickhead made from a double-blind intimacy always gets the other partner a bear.

Oh, one more thing: I know she's a robot, but would it kill you to give her a tall day after #?

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RECOMMENDED



SPORTS

AND HOCKEY'S BIRTHPLACE IS...

Hockey references were contemporarily scarce in the acclaimed documentary series, *Canada: A People's History*, but the producers were evidently saving their powder. Starting Sept. 17 (9 p.m. EST), the CBC will air the first of five two-hour installments of *Hockey: A People's History*, a kind of *Icecast* special that uses the same documentary template. This is history on the Ken Burns way, where sport is a lens through which to view the country's political and social evolution. But 10 million buys a lot of production value, meaning hockey parties will be well satisfied. The pace is majestic, the research meticulous, and the recent decision true to era—right down to looney knies and mesh-erion jerseys.

This history has been a long time coming (previous attempts, *TSN's Legends of Hockey*, was laden with talking heads relating disjointed anecdotes). And while specific events like the Richard Riot and the establishment of the players' union have been discussed, they have rarely been taken beyond their immediate context. "It was like wandering onto a gold field," says executive producer Mark Sawatzky. "There were a million nuggets out there and we were the first ones there." The series runs a thread through those nuggets and illuminates a few intriguing ones, such as the controversial origins of the Montreal Canadiens (the team was established with Ontario money, and initially ruled by the first phone gang). This growth, suppression and rebirth of the women's game is a running theme, and the producers come down definitively on an age-old debate, declaring Montreal to be hockey's birthplace. They won't like it in Windsor, N.S., but hey, what would hockey be without a good fight? *Charlie Gilbre*

Dylan and his pork chops, espionage in a long, hot English summer, the definitive hockey document, and a marathon concerto from a long-distance musician in our company of things that make life worth living



THE BEGINNING: Frank Pabst was one of the game's originators

PHOTOGRAPHY

SURE SHOT

If last year's *Isabella* Celine Dion shot, the new *PowerShot* A400 will almost certainly help keep Canon atop the digital camera market in Canada. Our next month, the \$499, 10-megapixel A400 features a 4x zoom, 21 shooting modes, and a 2.5-inch flip-out LCD screen that's great for self-portraits and word-angle shots. *Chantelle Housheer*

BOOKS

LIVES OF MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS

When Joyce Kilmer first probably wasn't had his last word that week better than 100 years ago, but for anyone new to the British novel, *Kilmer* (Random House) will be an eye opener. It's a novel about a woman's life and driving across the sea in the Second World War and the long, long English summer of 1916. *Suzanne, author and history, yes—but also a subtle exploration of the woman's life*



ENTERTAINMENT

FAST HANDS, EPIC PERFORMANCE

Tired of accusations that he's just another peer of lightning-quick hands, guitar hero Mani Anandhi Housheer demonstrates a fair

the relationship between mother and daughter in the *Isabella* film. *David Seltzer*

EXHIBIT

LET'S GET FLEECED

At the 2006 Venice Biennale of Architecture, *Isabella* Lodge is an architectural masterpiece. Inside Canada's pavilion hangs



a giant orange polar bear sculpture, almost human scale. Designed by Vancouver's Bill Hatcher and Stephanie Kelle, the sculpture is made of 400 kg of polystyrene and 1,200 recycled raw fibers, plus pop bottles. They plan to recycle the sweater into hats, scarves and mitts after the show.

CLASSICAL

FAST HANDS, EPIC PERFORMANCE

Tired of accusations that he's just another peer of lightning-quick hands, guitar hero Mani Anandhi Housheer demonstrates a fair

the grand gesture on his new live recording of *Isabella's* *PowerShot* No. 2 (an Egyptian). Housheer's account shows speed and clarity, of course—but also the sense of epic proportion *Isabella* demands. This concert is a masterpiece, and Housheer's up for the long-distance run. *Paul Wells*

TELEVISION

WIRED AT SCHOOL

HBO's cop drama *The Wire* gives equal attention to the police and the criminals. Jimmy McNulty may be the best detective on TV, but *drug dealers* like *Steve Buscemi*



and Mapple are just as fascinating. Now it's the fourth season on The Movie Network. *The Wire* takes a hard look at the youth of Baltimore and education. It's looking like a straight A season. *Shonda Dettol*



ROCK

DYLAN'S CHOPS

The overly polished blues guitar on Bob Dylan's latest, *Modern Times*, may have you pinning for the raw edge of *Highway 61 Revisited*, but there are some truly plausible moments on his 2006 studio release. While the rockabilly rump and traditional two-steps are fun, it's the slow songs that snap up on you. Not that you'll always know what Dylan's talking about. He mumbles about love and religion and the beauty—such middle lyrics like, "I woke up this morning, better and eggs in my bed / I ain't got no soul to even run my head / From the Lord's House of Love, and I put the pork chops, she put the per / She ain't no angel and neither am I / From the House of the Moon man." *Shonda Dettol*

SEPT. 17

Robert Downey Jr.

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